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THE JERUSALEM POST

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Court refuses to prevent teachers' strike

HAIM SHAPIRO

SCHOOL is to start today, at least for most of the country's one million elementary school pupils and some of the more than 400,000 secondary school pupils, but the National Labor Court yesterday stymied the Education Ministry's attempt to get them all to school on time.

The court rejected the ministry's request to issue restraining orders against the Histadrut Teachers Union and the Secondary School Teachers Association to stop them from striking today. The teachers are protesting the fact that many of the schools will not have armed guards, following a government decision to transfer responsibility for school security from the Education Ministry to the police.

According to the plan worked out by the police, there are to be guards at all kindergartens and elementary schools, as well as at schools in what are deemed to be "sensitive" areas, such as Jerusalem. The court said it is not qualified to rule on issues of security.

Meanwhile, however, there is some confusion as to which schools will be open. The Histadrut Teachers Union said its members will work at all schools that have guards, while the Secondary School Teachers Association has called on its members to stay away from all schools, whether they have guards or not.

Although virtually all elementary schools will be open, students in junior and senior high schools that are to have guards, as in Jerusalem, must call the school to determine to which union the teachers belong, and thus whether the school will be open.

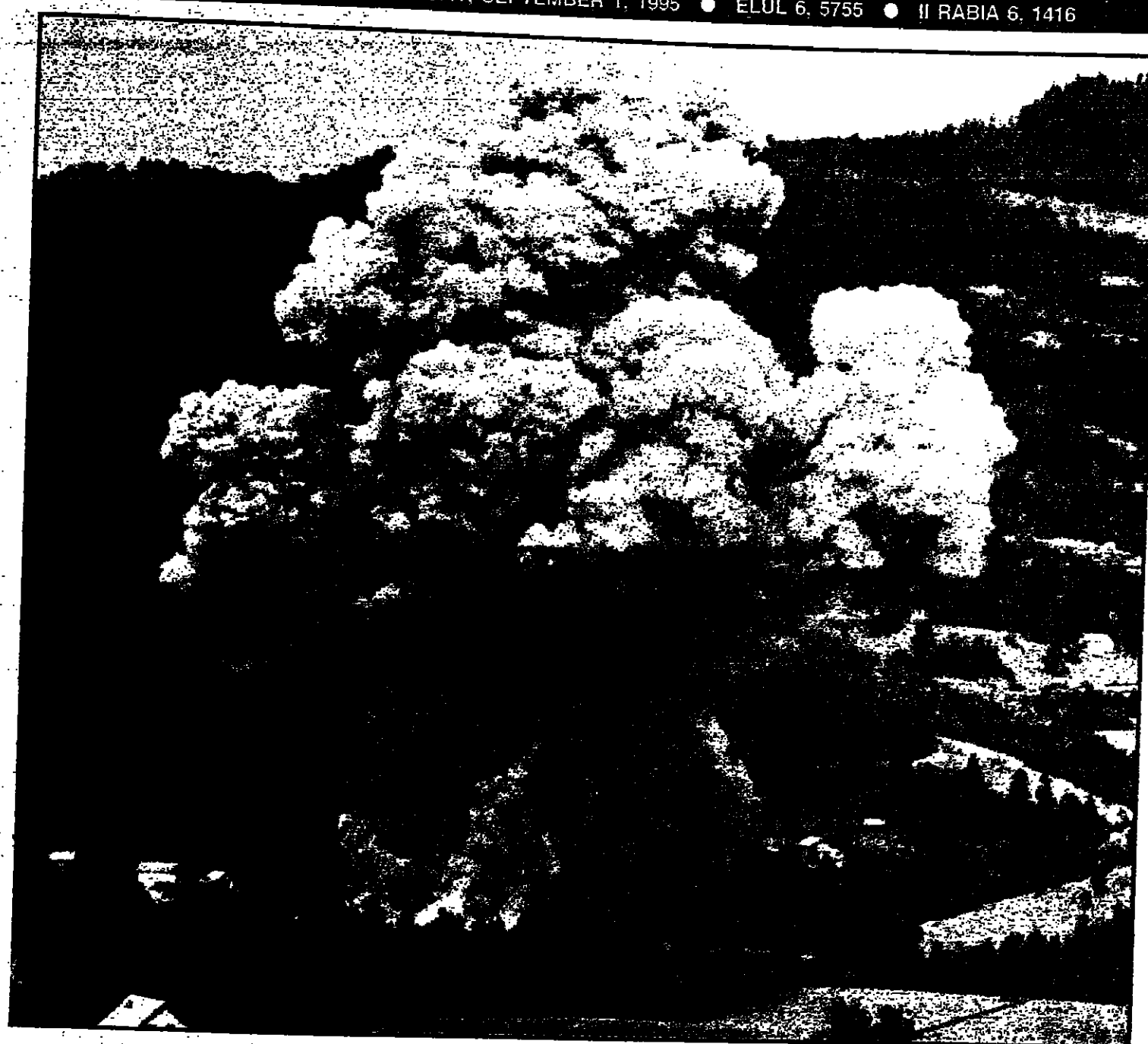
In Beersheba, where the Parents Association had threatened to boycott classes to protest poor physical facilities in the schools, the Education Ministry has obtained an injunction forbidding this.

In keeping with part of the court's decision, Education Minister Amnon Rubinstein has called a Sunday meeting of representatives of the police, the ministry, and the unions to try to work out a compromise. He has also been in contact with Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, who said he is convinced the police should be in charge of school security.

Rubinstein also accused the teachers of bringing another issue into the conflict. He said the teachers are now saying they want guards to protect them from violent pupils.

Meanwhile, some 2,000 alarm buttons are being installed in schools by the municipalities of Jerusalem, Tel Aviv, Hadera, Rehovot, Ramat Gan, and Rishon LeZion. The buttons have a direct line to the police.

In Arad, high school pupils will observe a minute of silence in memory of those who died in the Arad music festival stampede.



Smoke rises from an ammunition depot in the Bosnian Serb stronghold of Pale, east of Sarajevo (story, Page 8). (AP)

Israel won't release Yassin unless Hamas stops terror

DAVID MAKOVSKY

ISRAEL will link the release of imprisoned Hamas leader Sheikh Ahmed Yassin to a halt in terror attacks, a senior Israeli official close to the negotiations said yesterday.

"We will not release Yassin until Hamas changes its approach and stops terror attacks against Israel," the official said.

A phased prisoner release is expected to be worked out before an expanded self-rule agreement is reached in the next few weeks.

Yassin, 59, was arrested in 1989 and sentenced in 1991 to life in prison for ordering the killings of Palestinians. He confessed in a deal in which charges of murdering soldiers Ilan Sa'adon and Avi Sasportas were dropped.

There had been contacts between Hamas and the Palestinian Authority in late spring and early summer about stopping terror attacks against Israel, but Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin claims that the deal was foiled by Islamic militants living abroad.

Foreign Minister Shimon Peres will meet PA Chairman Yasser Arafat next Wednesday in Taba to discuss prisoner releases and IDF deployment in and around Hebron, the official said.

While Palestinian chief negotiator Ahmed Qreia yesterday questioned whether the pace of the current technical talks in Eilat

would enable an agreement to be reached this month, the Israeli official sounded more confident than ever that the signing ceremony will be held at the White House on September 18.

Jordan's King Hussein, Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and top officials from Russia, Japan, and the European Union are also expected to attend.

"The ceremony will be on September 18," the official said. "It is the one day that works for [President Bill] Clinton, Rabin, Arafat, Hussein, and Mubarak. If it is any later, we get into the period of the Jewish holidays, and then we have to wait a month. I think we can conclude the negotiations by then."

Qreia sounded less sanguine. "There were almost no achievements in this week's negotiations," he told Reuters. "Every time I think we are close to an agreement, we face new obstacles and regress because of the Israeli position."

"The agreement will be 320 pages, but if we continue talks with this Israeli position of leaving things to the end, I don't believe we can sign an agreement in September."

However, Foreign Ministry Director-General Uri Savir suggested that Qreia's remarks were motivated by tactical considerations - to extract Israeli concessions as negotiations move into the final (Continued on Page 22)

Gov't plans to share control of water

STEVE RODAN

THE government is planning to drop its insistence on exclusive control of at least two of its main water sources, the *Jerusalem Post* has learned.

Instead, the Foreign Ministry has drafted plans for joint management of the aquifers in Judea and Samaria with the Palestinians, as the first step toward a regional water distribution system, financed by the West and supervised by the US.

The new approach is opposed by virtually all water experts. Full story in today's Magazine.

Dayan slams Egyptian allegations

DAVID MAKOVSKY

EGYPTIAN officials should vigorously condemn the "baseless" lie by an Egyptian opposition newspaper that charged that Israel's envoy to Egypt, David Sultan, participated in the killing of Egyptian prisoners during the Sinai Campaign and the Six Day War, Deputy Foreign Minister Eli Dayan said last night.

Dayan sounded indignant about the charge against Sultan, noting anybody who knows Sultan's biography knows that he

could not possibly be involved.

Dayan discussed this matter with Egyptian Ambassador Mohammed Bassiouny yesterday, ahead of Dayan's upcoming trip to Cairo. Bassiouny would only say that his country is still waiting to receive the IDF investigation report promised on the killings of Egyptian prisoners of war in 1956.

Israel has stepped up security in Cairo to guard Sultan, whose

picture was displayed in the opposition paper *a-Shaab* under the headline "David Sultan - the killing ambassador." Security has been stepped up for the whole Israeli Embassy in Cairo as well as for other Israelis in the city.

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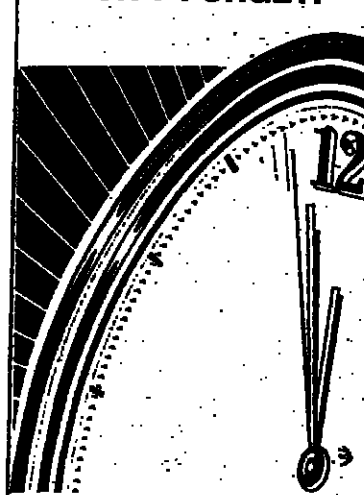
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0101007

ANNOUNCEMENT

Tel Aviv-Yafo Municipality

Public Announcement to Interested Parties Regarding the Establishment of a Mass Transportation System for the Greater Metropolitan Area of Tel Aviv-Yafo

This announcement is given by Mayor Roni Milo, and the Chairman of the Steering Committee of the Tel Aviv-Yafo Metropolitan Mass Transit System Management: The Management of Tel Aviv-Yafo Mass Transit System is a joint administrative unit for coordination, established by the Government of the State of Israel and the Municipality of Tel Aviv-Yafo for the purpose of planning and coordinating the establishment of a mass transit system in the greater Tel Aviv Metropolitan area.

This announcement is directed at consortiums and/or companies with planning capabilities, capabilities in the area of civil engineering, capabilities for the supply of mobile equipment and associated complementary systems (such as signaling, communications and control systems) and proven experience in the planning, erection, and financing of large-scale mass transit projects.

The Management of the Tel Aviv-Yafo Mass Transit System is conducting a feasibility study for the establishment of the mass transit system, through a joint venture of the consulting firms of Parsons Brinckerhoff International Inc. (USA), and the Sofretu Company (France).

Possible transportation systems under consideration are a heavy rail system, a light rail system, or some combination of the foregoing. It is contemplated that any system eventually selected will be partly underground and partly above ground and it will be integrated with other modes of transportation, such as railways, buses, parking lots and taxis.

At this time a number of different implementation approaches, which are traditional in Western countries, are being considered for the design, construction and operation of the system, including financing of the implementation of the system by the appropriate organization.

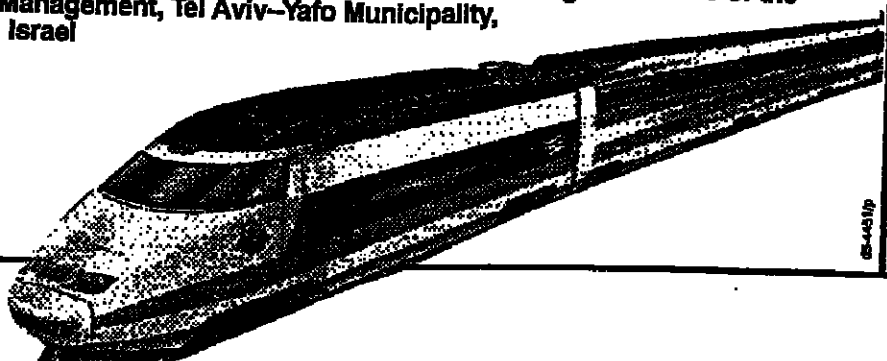
It is emphasized that the types of systems and approaches listed above are not all which will be considered, and it is possible that eventually some other combination of the types of systems and/or approaches will be selected.

It is currently planned to issue, in the last quarter of 1995 or, at the latest, in the first quarter of 1996, a request for qualifications for those parties who wish to participate in the pre-qualification process (RFO).

It is hereby stressed that nothing in this public announcement is intended or should be construed as a commitment whatsoever and/or an invitation, and/or an offer to contract, including with regard to the nature or content of the invitations and the tenders about to be published, and in particular the size of the mass transit system and/or the type of system and/or the implementation approach to be selected and the schedule.

Any party interested in participating in the initial stages of the tenders is invited to send its name and particulars to the following address:

Mr. Dan Darin, First Deputy Mayor, Chairman of the Planning Committee of the Metropolitan Management, Tel Aviv-Yafo Municipality,
Kikar Maichel Israel
Tel Aviv
Israel



Palestinians keep Jerusalem offices if they sign declaration

BILL HUTMAN

POLICE yesterday presented the three Palestinian institutions slated for closure with declarations affirming they are not connected to the Palestinian Authority, and said that if they signed them, they would be allowed to remain open.

The Police Ministry spokesman said the Palestinian Health Council signed the statement and would not be closed, and the Palestinian Broadcasting Corporation and Palestinian Statistics Center were given until Sunday to decide if they would sign.

Earlier this week the institutions were given until today to either close down, or be shut down, for allegedly violating the law against PA activities in Jerusalem.

The institutions, however, have maintained from the outset that they are not connected with the PA, and had appealed to the ministry against the planned closure.

"We will have all that existed before," said Faisal Hussein, the senior PLO official in Jerusalem. Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert blasted Shahal's decision. "The government has taken one step

forward and two steps back," he said. "I don't believe the promises of the Palestinian Authority. In the beginning, they promised not to operate in Jerusalem, and look what has happened since. Why should we believe them now?"

Olmert called on Shahal to close the three offices, in addition to four other Palestinian groups allegedly connected with the PA operating in eastern Jerusalem.

Next week, the Ministerial Committee on Jerusalem is to discuss whether to take steps to close Orient House, the PLO headquarters in Jerusalem.

"We will study the declaration, and then decide whether to sign," Hassan Abu Libdeh, director of the statistics center, said.

Yesterday, representatives of the three institutions met separately with Reuven Levy, Insp.-Gen. Assaf Hefetz's adviser on Arab affairs. Levy later sent them the statements to sign.

The statements make the institution directors promise to have no connection with the PA, and say the directors recognize they face criminal prosecution, in addition to closure, if they do.



Economics Minister Yossi Beilin dons jeweler's glasses yesterday during a tour of a Ramat Gan diamond workshop. (Hanania Hershman)

Jew held for planning attack on Arab bus

BILL HUTMAN

A JERUSALEM man has been detained on suspicion of planning to blow up a busload of Palestinian workers and other attacks on Palestinian targets, it was revealed yesterday.

Gil Dahari, was detained on August 20, and faces a second remand hearing today, a police spokeswoman said.

Yesterday, the Jerusalem Magistrate's Court lifted a ban on publication of details of Dahari's arrest.

According to police, Dahari spoke to an undercover police agent who had befriended him about his plans to attack Palestinian targets, including a bus that

took Palestinian workers from Ramallah to Beit Shemesh. The conversations were taped by the agent.

The suspect allegedly also planned attacks in the villages of wanted Hamas terrorist Yihya Ayyash ("The Engineer"), and the terrorist who carried out the suicide bombing in Ramat Gan.

Police sent the undercover agent to check out Dahari - who as an Interior Ministry building inspector spent much time in the administered territories - based on an intelligence tip.

Dahari allegedly sold the agent

two pistols. He also spoke about other people who would help in the planned attacks, including a person who was to arrive here soon from abroad.

Police, however, don't believe that Dahari indeed had cohorts. They arrested him after becoming concerned that he might try to carry out one of the attacks without the agent's knowledge.

Dahari, who lived alone in an apartment on King George Street, denies the allegations against him, and says it was only the agent who talked about planned attacks, according to police.

Sisters held for attempted stabbings

BILL HUTMAN

TWIN Palestinian teenage sisters were detained separately yesterday for allegedly trying to stab soldiers at the entrance to the Western Wall, police said.

In the late morning, a beggar spotted the first sister pulling a knife in an apparent attempt to stab a female soldier standing nearby, and she was apprehended by policemen.

Police said she was arrested 18 months ago for attempting a similar attack, and was released from jail recently. The teenager told investigators she wanted to be arrested yesterday, as last year, because of problems she had with her father.

Her twin sister came to the en-

trance of the Western Wall plaza several hours later and was detained by police after she was seen acting suspiciously. Police found a kitchen knife in her possession. She allegedly told investigators she wanted to stab a soldier to avenge her sister's arrest.

The sisters live in Jerusalem's Ras Al-Amud neighborhood.

Mr. Arafat, don't touch Jerusalem, you will burn your hands!
Ulrich Hartmann

US plans large assembly of donors to the Palestinians

HILLEL KUTTLER
WASHINGTON

THE US plans a second assembly of donor countries here this autumn to further encourage fulfillment of pledges toward Palestinian development, a senior administration official said yesterday.

The meeting could happen as soon as early October, which would be just weeks after the meeting here of the 16-member donors ad-hoc liaison committee. That meeting is scheduled to take place the day after the signing of the Israeli-Palestinian interim autonomy accord.

The second gathering of "a few dozen countries," the official said, will have on its agenda three areas where international assistance is needed: specific infrastructure development projects; funding of recurrent administration costs in the self-rule areas; and developing water sources.

He said discussion of the water issue is not a direct result of recent Israeli-Palestinian wrangling in the Eilat negotiations over control of aquifers in Judea and Samaria.

"It's a donor response to a

need for development of those [water] sources. It's a development and management question rather than a political issue," he said.

Administration officials had said earlier this summer that the first donors event was meant to capitalize on the new accord by emphasizing to donors the need to fulfill their pledges toward Palestinian infrastructure development. The donors pledged more than \$2 billion for that purpose in October 1993, following the signing of the Declaration of Principles.

Secretary of State Warren Christopher is scheduled to preside over the first gathering, while undersecretary of state for economic affairs Joan Spero will head the later forum. The signing of the Israeli-Palestinian agreement is still expected to be on or after September 18, the official said.

Jordan's King Hussein and Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak are expected to witness the event, he added.

Man kills wife, says angel told him to do it

DAVID RUDGE and Itim

AN Atlit man telephoned the police last night and told them he had just shot his wife to death with his pistol. Ya'acov Lamrovich, 33, was then arrested.

He apparently shot his wife, Rachel, 31, at about 7:40 p.m., while their two children, a boy, 4, and a girl, 2, were in the house.

According to a neighbor, Avner Cohen, Lamrovich returned home yesterday evening from Ramallah, where he was doing reserve duty, and had a cup of coffee with him and several other neighbors. Cohen said there was no sign anything was wrong.

According to Lt. Cmdr. David Tubal, of the Haifa police, Lamrovich said that an angel ap-

peared to him in his sleep and told him that it was necessary that his wife return to her mother, so he shot her.

He added that the wife had filed three complaints of abuse against Lamrovich since 1988, the last one a year ago. He said at least one file had been opened, but could not say what its outcome had been.

Local authority chairman Mordechai Amar said that Rachel Lamrovich had been in the process of filing for divorce, and that her husband had tried to prevent this. A court order had recently been issued instructing Lamrovich not to reach his wife's settlement.

ISRAELI JUSTICE - in Democratic Israel

Are these Israeli police apprehending an Arab terrorist?



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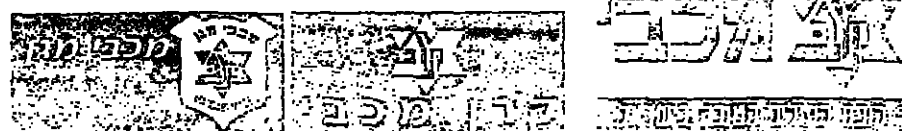
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The wife of the new OC Manpower Branch, Maj. Gen. Gideon Shefer, attaches her husband's new epaulets at the ceremony yesterday marking his promotion at General Staff headquarters in Tel Aviv.

Netanyahu meets with Bassiouny 'to clear air'

LIKUD Chairman Benjamin Netanyahu yesterday met with Egyptian Ambassador Mohamed Bassiouny and stressed that any future government formed by the Likud would be committed to a genuine peace.

He rejected any efforts from abroad to interfere in Israeli politics. Netanyahu's comments came in response to Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak's comment recently that he "hopes peace would come before the Likud rises to power."

In the meeting, which was described as "friendly," Netanyahu

argued that "only Israel's citizens will decide Israel's own internal affairs and their decisions will be predicated upon Israel's best interests. A Likud government will continue the quest for peace with any Arab side, which recognizes Israel's right to exist and its right to exist in peace and security. In this any future Likud government will follow the precedents set by previous Likud governments, who contracted the peace with Egypt and entered the Madrid conference framework."

Labor Secretary-General Nissim Zivili also had an Arab encounter yesterday, when Faisal Hussein, the leading PLO official in Jerusalem, visited the Labor party's headquarters on Tel Aviv's Hayarkon Street. Police Minister Moshe Shahal, who was in the building, made it a point to leave only minutes before Hussein's arrival.

Hussein is reported to have sought to argue against the closure of PLO institutions in Jerusalem, and to exert pressure for the removal of a protest vigil by Israelis outside Orient House.

Poll shows 73% of Israeli Jews back referendum before Oslo 2

SEVENTY-THREE percent of Israeli Jews polled Tuesday backed holding a referendum before implementation of Stage 2 of the Oslo accord, while 64% backed President Ezer Weizman's suggestion that one be held before implementation. A total of 52% said nothing would represent a threat to Israeli democracy.

The poll, commissioned by Independent Media Review and Analysis and conducted by the independent survey organization Mutagin, asked 500 Israeli Jews aged 18 and over: "In your opinion, should or shouldn't there be a referendum before the implementation of Stage 2 of the Oslo agreement?"

While 73% said there should be, 20% said there should not, 5% said they didn't know and 2% refused to answer. Asked "Do you support or oppose the president suggesting a referendum before the implementation of Stage 2 of the Oslo agreement?" 64% supported such a move, 27% opposed it, 6% said they didn't know and 3% refused to answer.

Asked "In case there is no referendum, would this, in your opinion, represent or not represent a threat to Israeli democracy?" 52% said it would be a threat, 38% said it did not represent a threat, 8% didn't know and 2% refused to answer.

The poll had a 4.5% margin of error.

IMRA said the poll results were particularly impressive since no campaign has been launched to promote a referendum as a requirement for implementing the second stage of the Oslo accord.

MORE than 100 teenagers were treated by Magen David Adom paramedics during and after a concert by pop star Aviv Gefen at the "Ir Hanoar" event in Haifa early yesterday morning.

MDA officials said that around half fainted during the concert, while the remainder suffered minor cuts and bruises. Four of those treated were sent to Rambam and Carmel hospitals for further examination and treatment.

They included a 16-year-old

Son of Jibril among casualties in apparent training accident at terror base in Lebanon

AT least five Palestinian terrorists were reported killed and a dozen wounded, including the son of Ahmed Jibril, in an explosion at a training base in Lebanon's Bekaa Valley.

Reports from Lebanon said the blast occurred on Wednesday, although details were only released yesterday. It was not clear from the reports whether the explosion was the result of a "training accident" or something else.

According to the reports, the blast occurred at a base of Jibril's Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command. Five terrorists were said to have been killed, including the commander of the group's eastern sector of south Lebanon.

Among the wounded, according to the reports, was Jihad Jibril, the eldest son of the terror group leader. He suffered stomach wounds and was taken to a hospital in Lebanon. Jibril himself was reported to have been in Damascus at the time.

In a separate incident in south Lebanon, a leading pro-Syrian Sunni Moslem leader was assassinated in the western sector of Beirut. Sheikh Nizar Halaby was gunned down in his car not far from his home in what appears to

have been a carefully planned ambush. His 12-year-old son and a bodyguard and his driver were reported to have been wounded in the attack.

One report said it appeared that Hizbullah was behind the assassination. Hizbullah, reportedly, blamed Halaby's organization, Al-Habishyon, for a hand-grenade attack during a ceremony it had arranged.

Meanwhile, the Amal Shi'ite organization yesterday claimed responsibility for a series of attacks early in the morning against IDF and South Lebanese Army

positions in the western and central sectors of the security zone.

There were no casualties and IDF and SLA gunners returned fire. The attacks by Amal coincided with ceremonies throughout Lebanon and especially in the south, to mark the disappearance in Libya in 1978 of the movement's founder Imam Musa Sadr.

The fighting died down later in the morning and no further clashes were reported as of last night.

According to military sources, as many as 20 terrorists, mainly from Hizbullah, have been killed by IDF and SLA forces inside and north of the security zone in the past month.

Outgoing JAG: Killing POWs is murder

OUTGOING Judge Advocate-General Brig. Gen. Ilan Shiff said yesterday that killing a prisoner of war is murder "just like any other murder."

In a farewell meeting with military reporters, Shiff said that the military legal system has developed in a parallel fashion to the civil legal system and has been strengthened.

"In this day and age, a system without adequate legal counseling will encounter functional problems," he said.

Shiff's four-year tenure will be particularly remembered for the investigations into the 1992 Tze'elim-2 accident, in which Shiff played a major part.

He was criticized for some of his decisions, especially his recommending administrative reprimands for Maj. Gen. Amram Levine and Maj. Gen. Uri Saguy.

"I am satisfied with everything I have done in the Tze'elim-2 investigation, although it is still early to conclude the issue. The state

comptroller is looking into the matter. I am confident that after she completes her probe, no questions will be directed at me," Shiff said.

Shiff indirectly criticized the decision made by Attorney-General Michael Ben-Yair to indict and try in a civilian court Lt. Yehoshua Sadiel, who is accused of making a navigation and command error that resulted in the death of a soldier in 1992.

"Generally speaking, the correct policy is not to judge negligence or errors made under operational circumstances by the same criteria we judge negligence in other military activities," he said.

Shiff will be replaced today by Brig. Gen. Uri Shoham, who until his appointment was the deputy president of the Military Court of Appeals.

Shoham, 47, was born in Iraq and immigrated in 1951. Since 1973 he has served in var-

ious positions in the judge advocate-general's office, including Central Command legal adviser, chief military prosecutor, and deputy judge advocate-general.

He is in his current post since 1992.

Shiff is a leading candidate to succeed Maj. Gen. Ben-Zion Farhi as president of the Military Court of Appeals.

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Punishment for torture to be harsher

JON IMMANUEL

ATTORNEY-GENERAL Michael Ben-Yair yesterday delivered a report to Justice Minister David Libai recommending that Israeli law against torture be brought into line with UN conventions.

The report of the committee investigating the law against torture suggested that legislation be introduced to make torture a special offense, punishable by 10 to 20 years' imprisonment.

Those who give the orders would be as punishable as those who perpetrate the offense.

At the same time, the committee recommended legislation authorizing the General Security Service to "explicitly to conduct interrogations and to use the legal means at its disposal."

The committee, headed by Ben-Yair, included the head of the GSS, the head of military intelligence, the police inspector-general and the state attorney.

The committee decided that the changes were necessary, not just to bring the law into line with international law, but to deliver a moral message "to the individual in society."

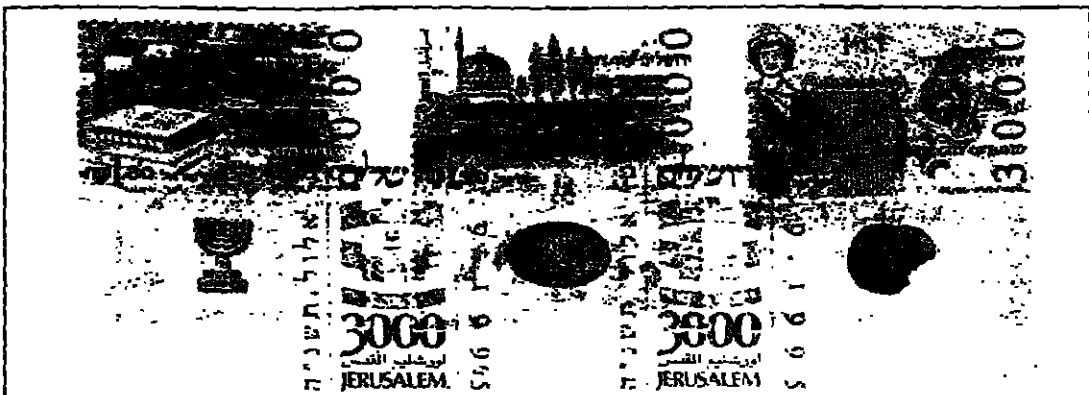
Although Israeli governments have ratified UN conventions they have not automatically become Israeli law.

Meanwhile, Jericho Preventive Security Service chief Col. Jibril Rajoub defended himself yesterday against a damning report by the B'selem human rights group.

Rajoub repeated his earlier claims that the PSS did not use torture and that almost all the cases of mistreatment allegedly committed by the PSS were perpetrated by people who did not belong to his organization.

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Three new stamps will be issued by the Postal Authority on Monday to mark the 3,000th anniversary of the establishment of Jerusalem as King David's capital. From right, the NIS 1 stamp shows part of a mosaic pavement in the Gaza Synagogue from the 6th century CE, showing King David playing the harp. The second stamp, sold for NIS 1.50, shows an illustration of Jerusalem from a map of Eretz Yisrael drawn by Rabbi Pinia of Safed in the 19th century. The NIS 1.80 stamp shows a contemporary aerial photo of the Knesset and Supreme Court building.

(Text: Judy Siegel)

Shahal urged to close Beersheba lockup

"I CALL on Police Minister Moshe Shahal to order the immediate closure of the Beersheba lockup," Dr. Yitzhak Kadman, head of the National Council for the Child, said yesterday after touring the jail.

Three minors have recently been raped in the jail. Kadman said conditions there are "subhuman."

"I didn't believe that in this country such a place would be

AMIR ROZENBLIT

used to house human beings," he said. "It is impossible to even keep animals there."

Kadman and MK Benny Temkin (Meretz), chairman of the Knesset subcommittee on disadvantaged youth, who joined him on the tour, said they would fight for the building of a new jail for minors in Beersheba.

Until a better solution is found,

they said, minor prisoners should be moved from the jail to army bases.

The jail has two cells for minors, each designed to hold four. One of the cells is now used to house all the young Arab prisoners, while the other holds six Jews. Because of the crowding,

two people sleep in each bed; others sleep on the floor, on thin mattresses. The roach-infested cells are dark and unventilated.

LABOR and Social Affairs Minister Ora Namir left for China last night at the head of a 12-member delegation to the major women's conference being held in Beijing.

The 10-day United Nations Fourth World Conference On Women, which officially opens Monday, is the largest such gathering ever, and is expected to attract up to 50,000 delegates from around the world. Among those attending will be US First Lady Hillary Clinton, the wife of the French president, Bernadette Chirac, and Jordan's Princess Basma.

The Israeli delegation includes Nava Arad, the prime minister's adviser on the status of women; MKs Naomi Chazan, Yael Dayan and Naomi Blumenthal; leaders of voluntary women's organizations; and two Foreign Ministry representatives.

Namir will address the conference plenum next Friday on Israeli achievements in women's rights, but also on what remains to be done to achieve equality in legislation, education and other fields. However, Professor Alice

Shalvi, chairwoman of the Israel Women's Network, sharply criticized the report on women's status here that Namir is bringing to the conference — a status report requested by the UN from all delegations.

"The report is flawed, not up to date and lacks vital data and statistics, because those who prepared it do not regard women's issues seriously. Even the English is full of spelling mistakes and printing errors," she said.

Shalvi expressed hope that the Israeli delegation, which includes a member of the IWN, "will not feel bound by foreign policy considerations to betray the true feminist principles and solidarity with the women of the world."

Meanwhile, some 20,000 delegates of voluntary, non-governmental women's organizations taking part in the NGO Forum have already arrived in Beijing and opened discussions on various women's issues, ranging from equality in the workplace to fe-

MICHAEL YUDELMAN
and news agencies

male genital mutilation and slavery.

The Chinese government, which imposed strict security and forbade any protests or demonstrations at the conference site, decided at the last minute to move the NGO Forum out of Beijing, cutting participants off from the delegates to the world conference. In addition, China decided to bar entry to certain conference delegates approved by the UN.

In preparing for the conference, the Chinese have emptied the streets, rounding up peddlers, pimps, prostitutes, beggars and homeless, as well as political dissidents, and sending them far out of town.

Journalists in Beijing say white sheets were distributed to city police to wrap up radical women delegates who might carry out threats to strip in the streets of Beijing or in Tiananmen Square to protest human rights violations in China.

Despite Chinese propaganda promoting women's rights, women in China are still routinely kidnapped to be married off against their will and millions of girls are still believed to be killed at birth or aborted because of their gender.

Many Chinese girls are abandoned at train and bus stations or on the steps of city halls by disappointed parents and the orphanages are filled with unwanted girls.

Jon Immanuel adds:

Palestinian women from Jerusalem almost walked out of the conference in Beijing because they had been described as being part of an Israeli delegation. The error was corrected and they stayed.

"I think it was just a mistake. I hope it was," said Kwada Basir, a leading women's activist in Nablus. A protest letter was sent to the UN Secretariat.

Basir, a member of the Federation of Palestinian Women, did not attend the conference because her passport was not in order.

Mother starts fast to regain her baby

AMIR ROZENBLIT

THE Beersheba woman whose husband allegedly beat her 40-day-old baby in July began a hunger strike yesterday in a bid to get back custody of her child, who has been placed in foster care.

"I have no life without my child," said the 24-year-old woman. "I was also a victim of the violence. My husband threatened to kill me if I reported the incident."

Yesterday, the Beersheba Magistrate's Court extended for two weeks the right of the Welfare Service to keep the baby in foster care.

The 30-year-old father was charged with abusing the baby and has been remanded until the end of his trial. The mother was also charged with not preventing her husband from beating the child and for not reporting the alleged abuse to police.

The baby was brought to Beersheba's Soroka Hospital by his aunt and grandmother. Doctors determined that his legs had been fractured and detected other signs of abuse, and reported the incident to the Welfare Service.

The baby was released from the hospital on Sunday, a month after being admitted, and given over to a foster family.

The woman and her family asked the court to allow them to raise the child while being counseled by the service. They had expected to take the child home when he was released from the hospital.

After the ruling, the mother began a hunger strike and a round-the-clock vigil at the court house.

"The social workers told me to hold a baby doll as a substitute for my son to deal with the trauma," the woman said at the court. "I was shocked. What do they think. They think I will be satisfied with a doll and give up my baby? They are wrong. Only over my dead body will they take my child."

"I want my life and my blood back. It is not right that the baby is being taken away from his biological mother."

"I won't stop my hunger strike or move from the court until my son is brought back. I promise to take good care of him. I'll do everything for him, if they would only give me a chance."

LABOR and Social Affairs Minister Ora Namir has said the baby would not be returned to the mother and would be put up for adoption.

The court said it issued the two-week extension to enable the state to prepare its request for a hearing before the Beersheba District Court, in which they will ask for an order allowing them to put the baby up for adoption.

The woman's attorney said the case is not one in which the baby should be put up for adoption, but rather that the mother should be counseled and helped by the Welfare Service.

"No one says that the mother hurt her child. It was only claimed that she did not act to protect him. But the punishment is being directed in the wrong place. The mother was a victim of abuse by her husband."

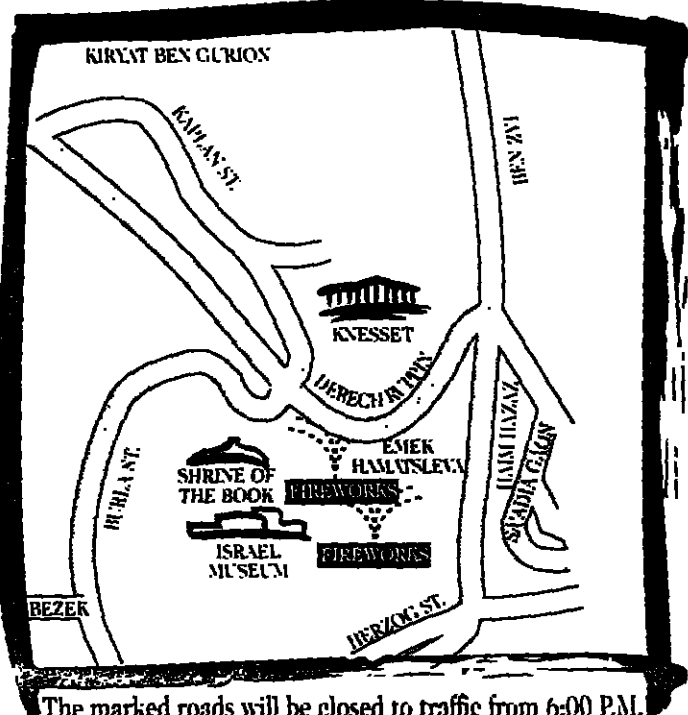
The court also ruled yesterday that the mother may visit the baby twice a week with a social worker.

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The public is invited to view the event from three observation areas:

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Ambassador to Italy Shmuel Hadas (left) and representatives of the Italian town of St. Egidio, Professor Sandro Zuccari (center) and Ambrogio Spreafico, plant a tree yesterday in memory of the Holocaust.

A-G asked to drop kidnapping charge

RAINE MARCUS

THE lawyer for Rachel Mauda, 26, has asked Attorney-General Michael Ben-Yair to drop charges of kidnapping against her, following a British court ruling that although her children should live here, criminal proceedings should not be pursued.

Channa Herstick-Sichel said she has sent the request to Ben-Yair after the district attorney refused to drop the charge, which carries a maximum 20-year sentence.

British-born Mauda, separated from her Israeli husband Ilan, left Israel about eighteen months ago with her two young children, today age 3½ and 20 months.

Ilan Mauda followed her to England and pressed charges against her under the Hague Convention. The case reached the British High Court of Justice, which ruled that Rachel Mauda

should return to Israel with their children, as long as certain conditions were met.

The conditions included mandatory child support of NIS 750 monthly, an additional payment for the apartment rental for his wife and children, a pledge that the verdict would be upheld by Israeli courts, and a further declaration by Mauda that he would

not press criminal charges against his wife.

But, in violation of the British court ruling, Ilan Mauda filed a kidnapping complaint against his estranged wife and she is to be indicted on Sunday in Tel Aviv District Court.

Ilan Mauda also failed to pay child support and refuses to give his wife a car. He was recently jailed for a month for non-payment of child support.

Terner may consider running for Knesset

SARAH HONG

RUMORS abounded in the Likud yesterday that former police inspector-general Ya'akov Terner had decided to run for a spot on the party's next Knesset list.

Terner last night refused to confirm or deny the reports, saying only that he is not yet ready to make any official announcement. Likud Chairman Binyamin Netanyahu, who had previously conferred with Terner, would only say that he welcomes all new candidates who opt for the Likud.

Terner had been avidly courted by the Labor Party; in fact, his term as inspector-general was abruptly shortened in March 1993, when reports surfaced that Labor had sought to recruit him to its ranks while he was still in uniform.

After he resigned from the post, Terner alleged that Police Minister Moshe Shahal had attempted to interfere in the police probe into corruption charges against former interior minister

Aryeh Deri of Shas. Terner contended that Shahal sought to slow down and even curtail the investigation by changing the team in charge of the case.

The state comptroller eventually took Shahal's side and Terner turned to the High Court of Justice on the grounds that the comptroller had not heard out his side of the story before passing judgment.

Yesterday, Terner said he will not make any announcement on his political future until after his legal battle is through.

Nevertheless, the Likud was rife with rumors yesterday about just what sort of a primary contest Terner might opt for. He could run for a slot on the party state of Knesset candidates on the national list or in a local contest.

The national list is very crowded and would present a very tough challenge. The problem for Terner is that his home address places him in the Sharon region,

where he would face stiff challenges from Herzliya Mayor Eli Landau and former Government Press Office chief Yossi Olmert of Ra'anana.

Some in the Likud speculated that Terner would do best to find an address for himself in the south, where competition is likely to be less tough.

Meanwhile, a Labor Party source close to Labor Secretary-General Nissim Zvili reported last night that Histadrut Chairman Haim Ramon and MKs Amir Peretz and Shmuel Avital are on the way to returning to Labor. The source said the Ramon trio will soon begin paying Labor Party membership dues again, to keep open their option to run and vote in the upcoming primaries for the Knesset list.

Ramon and his colleagues were expelled from Labor after they defeated its Histadrut list in 1994 Histadrut elections. Labor has since ardently sought to woo them back, but they have been in no rush to accept its embrace.

Tsomet screens potential candidates for Knesset

SARAH HONG

TSOMET yesterday began a screening process for new Knesset candidates, aiming to prevent future defections of the type that cost the party three seats in the current Knesset.

Tsomet leader Rafael Eitan headed the committee before which the candidates appeared. Each candidate was interviewed for some 20 minutes. By the end of the day, however, no decision was announced.

This was ascribed to differences of opinion within the committee which promised to agree

on eight new candidates by Monday. The eight are to join the 18 candidates who will win primaries in December.

All the candidates, including the present Tsomet MKs, who will not need to compete in the primaries, will be ranked by the Tsomet central committee.

Among those who appeared before the screening committee yesterday were party director-general Doron Shmueli, and Nehama Ronen, Eitan's long-time

aide.

Eitan denied that the screening process is undemocratic.

"The theft of three Knesset mandates is what is really undemocratic, especially when two of them [Energy Minister Gonen Segal and Deputy Housing Minister Alex Goldfarb] were transferred from the opposition to the coalition in the clearest contravention of the will of the voters."

"Now we... want to make absolutely sure that Tsomet gives no free ride on its back to any more parasites," he said.

High radon concentrations found in Arad, Karmiel

JUDY SIEGEL

TEL AVIV University researchers have found high concentrations of radon gas buildings in Arad and Karmiel.

The readings, carried out over a whole year, were part of research on a new technique for testing the radiation dangers of the gas, which naturally occurs in the earth and seeps into basements and the first two floors of buildings.

People exposed to high concentrations of radon over long periods are at significantly higher risk for lung cancer, even if they don't smoke. Dr. Menachem Margalit headed a team that tested radon levels in all the larger population centers.

Margalit says he found that overall, radon concentrations here are somewhat higher than the world average.

But Arad was 70 percent higher, and Karmiel 60 percent higher than the national average.

This is not surprising, notes Margalit, because both are located on land rich in phosphates, which generally have a relatively large amount of uranium.

Supervised by Prof. Avraham Katzir of the medical physics department and Prof. Tuvya Schlesinger of the Nuclear Research Center at Nahal Sorek, the study noted that radon turns into radioactive-particle derivatives that are inhaled into the lungs and remain there, possibly causing genetic changes.

Of the 750 deaths from lung cancer here in 1991, 80 are likely to have been due to radon exposure.

Until now, scientists have assessed radon risk according to concentrations of the derivatives in the air.

But Margalit managed to measure the actual amount of radon gas before it broke down into particles; looking at the amount of gas gives a more accurate picture.

ture of the amount of radiation reaching the lungs, he says.

Radon enters a building mainly through cracks in the foundations and through telephone or electrical pipes. The highest concentration: Margalit found during his testing was in a Karmiel electrical facility containing an opening for electrical pipes to enter from underground.

His technique uses a laser to automatically screen the radon detector. He tested locations where a total of 82 percent of the country's population lives.

Investigating the effect of vari-

ous means to prevent radon from entering buildings, Margalit found that brushes, rubber seals, and polyethylene sheets do have a significant protective effect.

He recommends locating radon concentrations beneath structures in higher-risk areas and insulating them to reduce exposure.

Since the Israel Electric Corporation is running its new high-voltage cables underground instead of above ground, Margalit recommended that they be threaded into plastic pipes that don't crack, instead of asbestos

ones that allow radon to enter: the amount of gas at their ends should also be tested, he said.

NEWS IN BRIEF

One killed, eight hurt on roads

One person was killed and four were injured — two seriously — in an accident that occurred yesterday afternoon near Tulkarm when a car veered out of its lane and hit a van head-on.

In a second accident, an 11-year-old girl was seriously injured and three others were moderately hurt when the pickup in which they were traveling near Kiryat Gat overturned. *Itm*

Netanya girl hurt in fall from balcony

A 10-year-old girl was seriously hurt when she fell off the balcony of her home on the third floor of a building in Netanya yesterday. A Magen David Adom crew rushed her to Hillel Yoffe Hospital in Hadera.

The girl had climbed on a bed on the balcony off the apartment's living room and started talking to a friend in the street below, when she suddenly slipped, lost her balance and fell to the street. Police are investigating. *Itm*

Liba'i meets Hussein

Justice Minister David Liba'i met yesterday in his Tel Aviv office with Palestinian leader Faisal Hussein to discuss the PLO's activities in Orient House, its Jerusalem headquarters.

Liba'i said the government does not want to harm Orient House or other institutions serving the local population before the Oslo Agreement, but is concerned that it was being used for Palestinian Authority activities. *Itm*

No Tel Aviv-Haifa train service today

There will be no train service between Tel Aviv and Haifa today because of engineering work. Trains will run as usual on the Haifa-Nahariya, Tel Aviv-Rehovot and Tel Aviv-Jerusalem lines. *Sybil Ehrlich*

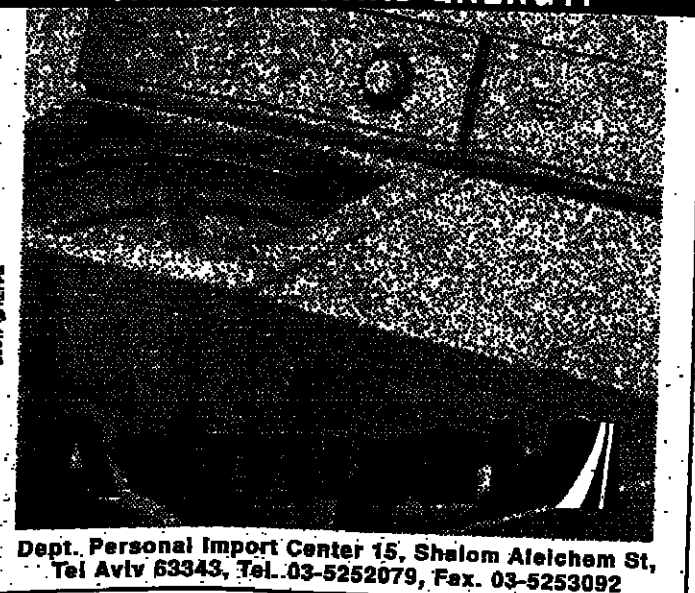
Beduin man arrested with marijuana, stolen cameras

A 23-YEAR-OLD Beduin man had his remand extended by nine days yesterday after he was arrested with a sack of marijuana and two stolen cameras. He was arrested after being spotted acting suspiciously by helicopter-borne members of a company that specializes in finding stolen cars.

Salmei Abu Jildan, 23, was spotted near Kibbutz Hatzertim in the Negev. The crew of the helicopter radioed police, who saw him throw a burlap sack out of his car as they approached. He was detained and police found two cameras with smudged serial numbers in the car. The sack was recovered and found to contain almost six kilos of marijuana.

Jildan insisted the cameras were his and that he bought them in the Beersheba market from immigrants from the CIS. He denied the marijuana was his. *(Itm)*

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Dangerous invective

ON Wednesday, Police Minister Moshe Shahal announced the government possessed information that "men of the right wing" intended to assassinate government leaders. He and other ministers appealed to opposition leaders to moderate their pronouncements on the implementation of "Oslo 2."

There is fear, they said, that the right would translate words which cast doubt on the government's legitimacy into deeds of violence.

On the same day, Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin - addressing members of the "Peace and Security Committee" who had gathered to show support for his policies - charged "the extreme right" with giving "indirect assistance" to Islamic terrorists. The Hamas "extremist terrorists" and Israel's "extreme rightists" share the goal of stopping the peace process, he asserted.

Insisting that the terrorists view his government, not the right wing, as their "main enemy" and that only he stood between them and the achievement of the goals they share with the right, he solemnly vowed, "We shall not allow them, the enemies of Israel, the murderers of Hamas and Islamic Jihad, to attain their purpose, even if they receive help here in Israel."

It is a theme Rabin has been repeating at almost every public appearance, and if it sounds like electioneering, this is probably because it is. There are still 14 months to go before the elections, but Rabin has obviously decided to start the campaign now, casting his opposition in the role of "rightist extremists" who ally themselves, perhaps not consciously but in effect, with the "Hamas and Islamic Jihad murderers."

Only time will tell whether this demonization and delegitimization of the opposition is an effective campaign strategy. But there is little doubt that it is incompatible with calls for moderation in the public debate. Clearly, when Rabin says "extreme right" he means anyone who does not agree with his policies. He has referred to massive demonstrations of hundreds of thousands as mobs of the extreme right. And he has similarly described the main opposition Likud Party.

Nor is he deterred by the presence of such avowed doves as President Ezer Weizman among those who have doubts about the wisdom of continuing the present course. Whoever opposes his policies is an extremist, an ally of Israel's enemies and an opponent of peace.

What makes this attitude particularly noxious is that it is reflected in the behavior of the police. It is difficult to imagine that the police would treat demonstrators with such unprecedented brutality had the government not portrayed protesters as the enemies of the state. The testimonies of disinterested parties, eyewitnesses unrelated to Israeli politics who have been shocked to the core by the police's conduct in demonstrations, make it clear that most of the violence is initiated by the police.

That not the Hebrew press, nor the Justice Ministry, nor the State Comptroller's Office nor such self-styled human rights organizations as B'tselem have uttered a single word of protest against this conduct may well mean that Rabin's demonization campaign is all too effective. (The absence of an outcry may be despicable, but it in no way justifies the irresponsible threats made by MK Rehavam Ze'evi, leader of the opposition Moledet Party, to list abusive police in a "blacklist.")

To say that the level of political debate in Israel is low and often shameful is to state the obvious. Not only do politicians abuse language, they demean and insult the intelligence of their listeners. In this, neither side is guiltless. Placards on the right which today call Rabin "traitor" are quite as despicable as the placards on the left which in the 1980s branded the late Menachem Begin "murderer." Responsible opposition leaders have condemned such obscenities with vehemence and they must continue to do so.

But the only politician who can set the tone of this debate over what is arguably the most fateful decisions facing the state since its inception is the person at the helm. And if Rabin insists on demonizing the majority of the Jewish electorate which opposes his policies, the responsibility for the deterioration of the debate into ugly, dangerous invective will have to rest on his shoulders.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

POLICE-STATE TACTICS

Sir, - Following the recent Jerusalem bus bomb, Knesset members, professors and senior reserve army officers started a hunger strike opposite the government offices in Jerusalem. The strikers had asked Israelis to visit them to show solidarity with their demand that Prime Minister Rabin heed President Ezer Weizman's call to suspend talks with the PLO.

On Thursday, August 24, a group of residents of Rishon LeZion including myself left the city at 3 p.m. on a rented bus to visit the hunger strikers in Jerusalem. When we reached the Shapir junction just before the Tel-Aviv-Jerusalem freeway (about 50 km to the west of Jerusalem) a large group of policemen signaled us to stop and pull over to the side of the road.

A police officer entered the bus and informed us that until he receives further instructions we would be detained "to prevent a disturbance of the public order" by demonstrating in Jerusalem.

After an hour, the officer told me that we would only be allowed to return to Rishon LeZion Central Bus Station accompanied by two policemen. After our return, small groups of three or four drove to Jerusalem in private cars.

Later we learned that our experience represented a pattern repeated throughout Israel. "Suspicious" buses (with no marking of a regular route, or with protest signs, or with predominantly religious-looking passengers) and private cars were stopped and held up for several hours as far as 100 km from Jerusalem. Some buses were driven to the local police station for further investigation of the passengers. Passengers who tried to get off the bus were pushed back by club-wielding soldiers and policemen, and some were hit in sensitive areas. As the policemen generally took the keys of the detained buses, passengers were stranded for up to a few hours without air conditioning in the hot summer sun. A few with health problems fainted.

Our spokesman Dr. Ron Breiman's private car was stopped and searched, apparently because of a protest sign in one of its windows. Another Rishon resident, Mr. Yosi

THE COST OF

Sofer, hitchhiked to Jerusalem. The car he was in had four people wearing skullcaps, which apparently aroused the suspicion of policemen who stopped them at the entrance to Jerusalem. Searching the car, they found a sign reading, "Rabin, go to the President." Told that the sign belonged to Sofer, they ordered him to walk to the Jerusalem Central Bus Station and return immediately to Rishon LeZion.

In Jerusalem the roads around the hunger strikers' tent were blocked with large contingents of special police forces called "Yassam" and Green Beret soldiers, equipped with large wooden and plastic clubs. Policemen strutted on horses on the walkways and the streets. We could only get to the tent through pathways on the hills.

After an hour at the tent, we returned to the main road. The sight was dreadful. Policemen were shouting and hitting people on the sidewalks with clubs and charging them on horses. Many were injured. I could go on with many more descriptions and other people's stories to illustrate that the events described were not isolated cases.

The State of Israel is generally perceived as a democratic country in which civil rights are respected. Events of the past two years lead me to believe that the Israeli government has left the domain of the rule of law and entered the domain of regimes which rule through the political use of security forces. In today's Israel the word "lawful" has come to mean whatever the government views as legitimate.

The recent deterioration to police-state tactics has been hastened by the fact that the government represents only a minority of Jews ruling only through the support of Arab parties affiliated with the PLO. As the Jewish majority in Israel raises its voice in protest against this minority regime, the government tries to suppress opposition by the violent use of force. The resort to police-state tactics is a clear indication that the government is losing its legitimacy as the representative of the people.

PROF. ISRAEL HANUKOGLU
Rishon LeZion.

DENTAL TREATMENT

Sir, I recently I had an appointment with the family dentist whom I have used for the past 15 years. Unfortunately, I am one of those Israelis who does not visit the dentist regularly, only in times of emergency, due to the prohibitive costs of visiting the dentist here in Israel. As a result of these infrequent visits, the dentist suggested that I undergo a panoramic X-ray, which is a standard X-ray of the entire dentition, at one of the local clinics which specializes in this procedure. As I work in East Jerusalem for the government, I decided to ask my colleagues whether or not this standard procedure could be done in East Jerusalem. They gave me the name of a local clinic where I received prompt, efficient and courteous treatment for NIS 25. Out of curiosity, I returned to my office and called for an appointment at the suggested dental clinic in West Jerusalem and was told that an appointment was not necessary and that the cost was NIS 120, nearly five times the price in East Jerusalem.

The price differential for this standard procedure between East and West Jerusalem is totally unwarranted, unjustifiable and simply a reflection of greed among many of those practicing in the dental profession here in Israel. Moreover, having spent 17 years in the reserves as a medic, I am appalled by the large number of citizens who never see the dentist until they are inducted into the army for the first time at age 18 and will never visit a dentist again except for an extraction, due to the prohibitive costs of such a visit. While the profession will surely try to justify these outrageous costs, we must remember that all dentists educated here in Israel do so with generous help from the taxpayer. Higher education here as well as in most parts of the world is supported by the taxpayer. To attend a publicly funded university at the taxpayer's expense and then to charge amounts for medical care which they cannot afford is immoral, unethical and outrageous. Moreover, the fact that the government health authorities have allowed these practices to occur over the years without any intervention, to the detriment of the Israeli public, makes them guilty of these highly unethical medical practices.

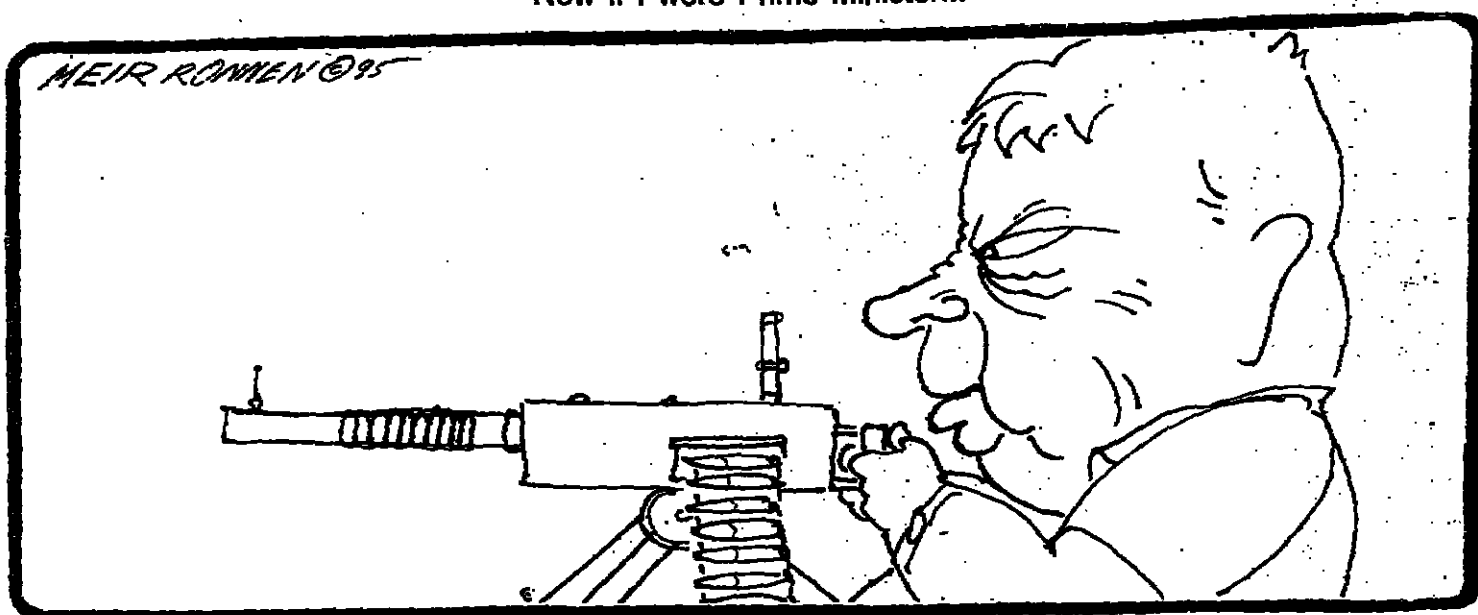
One nevertheless doubts if the mayor would approve of the following classical example of hysterical overreaction in the local press: "Coming from a background whose history attests to the Spanish Inquisition, World Wars I and II, the Holocaust, and lately the massacres in Bosnia,

the price differential for this standard procedure between East and West Jerusalem is totally unwarranted, unjustifiable and simply a reflection of greed among many of those practicing in the dental profession here in Israel. Moreover, having spent 17 years in the reserves as a medic, I am appalled by the large number of citizens who never see the dentist until they are inducted into the army for the first time at age 18 and will never visit a dentist again except for an extraction, due to the prohibitive costs of such a visit. While the profession will surely try to justify these outrageous costs, we must remember that all dentists educated here in Israel do so with generous help from the taxpayer. Higher education here as well as in most parts of the world is supported by the taxpayer. To attend a publicly funded university at the taxpayer's expense and then to charge amounts for medical care which they cannot afford is immoral, unethical and outrageous. Moreover, the fact that the government health authorities have allowed these practices to occur over the years without any intervention, to the detriment of the Israeli public, makes them guilty of these highly unethical medical practices.

OUTRAGED
(Name and address supplied)
Jerusalem.

Sir, - I would like to applaud your columnist Moshe Zak for his most interesting article of August 17, "The Israel-Jordan-Iraq Triangle." This article reveals facts previously unknown to the public, which are in

many ways a journalistic scoop. However, there was a small error in the article: Iraq's debts amounted to \$27 billion rather than \$27 million as printed.
Tel Aviv, HAJM DUVSHANI



And a flag burned in Jericho

MOSHE ZAK

AFTER seven days of closure, the walls of Jericho haven't come tumbling down. The authorities in the city haven't deported terrorist Muha Sharif, who issued the bus suicide bomber in Jerusalem with his deadly supplies.

Jibril Rajoub, head of the Palestinian Authority's "preventive mechanism," who is quite able to kidnap his rivals inside Jerusalem, under the nose of the Israel Police, "didn't see" the rioting by Palestinian demonstrators at the Israeli Border Police post.

Palestinian policemen were present when Palestinian demonstrators attacked Israeli soldiers and police, but they were chiefly concerned with preventing the Israelis from opening fire for their own protection.

The Palestinian policemen shed no tears at the sight of the demonstrators burning the Israeli flag which had been flying over the border checkpoint; nor were they sorry to see the PLO flag flying in place of the burnt Israeli one.

For the demonstration from which the attackers had come was by permission of the Palestinian authorities, and it included all the Palestinian organizations, both Arafat's supporters and his opponents.

The Palestinian authorities' excuse for their failure to prevent the attack on the Border Police post was the small number of policemen facing large crowds of demonstrators. But this doesn't explain why the Palestinian Police didn't arrest the rioters once the closure was lifted, on the basis of televised evidence which could have identified them.

And why didn't the Israeli authorities come right out at the "Eilat Fair" (also known as nego-

tations for Oslo 2) and demand of the Palestinian representatives that Palestinians who had attacked Israeli soldiers and policemen be arrested before renewal of the talks?

Without any such Israeli initiative after an incident of this seriousness, the hall was in the Palestinians' court, and they conditioned the renewal of the talks on Jibril Rajoub obtaining permission to travel from Jericho to Eilat to attend the talks.

In actual fact, the PLO could have got the permission in a two-

minute conversation with one of the Israeli representatives. But it wanted more than just permission: it desired a display of strength which would draw attention to Israel's pardoning Rajoub for his actions in Jerusalem, and his inaction this week at the Vered Jericho border crossing.

That is why the PLO announced its pseudo-ultimatum to Israel before permission was applied for. After the Foreign Ministry declared that Israel had reservations about the closure of Jericho, the PLO quickly announced that it would not return to the talks unless the closure was lifted, so as to chalk up another Israeli concession - lifting of the closure without the extradition of the terrorist responsible for preparing the explosives to blow up the bus on Sderot Eshkol.

The pictures published this week in all the Palestinian camps and cities may cause a stir reminiscent of the early days of the intifada.

The objective of the demonstration in Jericho was to obtain Israeli work permits. But tomorrow or the next day, after the talks for Oslo 2 or 3 or 4 or 5 are completed, we may see dozens of processions of demonstrators crossing the present temporary separation lines and throwing stones at Israelis. Their objective then will be to regain property lost in the wars with Israel.

When that happens, the Palestinian Police will stand by, as it did at Jericho, and the IDF will be prevented from firing on unarmed demonstrators. The result will likely be similar to the shameful display at Jericho this week. This is no fictional scenario. The Palestinians planned similar marches in Gaza at the beginning of the 1960s. Only the Six Day War thwarted their plans.

Demonstrations do not pose a threat to Israel's existence; but they can be as great a nuisance as the intifada.

All these attrition scenarios will be facilitated by twilight accords on the Oslo pattern. The rush for nebulous wholesale agreements perpetuates friction such as that over Orjen House in Jerusalem, and crises like the flag-burning on the road to Jericho.

President Mubarak's advice this week to Ma'ariv's Oded Granot, that Israel should proceed slowly in its relations with its Arab neighbors, is well-taken. The Egyptian president said: "You are not in Europe. Here there is a different mentality. Why are you Israelis in such a hurry? Wait a year or two, and in time you will achieve your goal. If you rush ahead, you may fail."

Mubarak's advice, though given in a different context, should be applied to Oslo 2.

The writer, a veteran journalist, comments on public affairs.

September 18 isn't a sacred date for wrapping up Oslo 2

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Jerusalem 3000: Issues of balance

DAN LEON

THE September 4 opening ceremony of the Jerusalem 3000 festivities raises the question of whether the millennium adequately expresses the complexity and uniqueness of Jerusalem.

Some have expressed doubts about the date, but this is irrelevant. Whether or not it is exactly 3,000 years since King David made Jerusalem the capital of his kingdom, the city has every right to celebrate the event. The question is not whether or when to celebrate, or even what to celebrate, but how to celebrate.

What sort of image of Jerusalem do we wish to present for ourselves and for the world?

The European Union has decided to boycott the celebration and withdraw all funding for cultural events in its framework because "it does not sufficiently highlight the ethnic diversity in the city."

"We are sorry that the Jerusalem 3000 festival does not reflect the distinct contribution of all religious groups to the city. It is a fact that many religious groups have contributed over the 3,000 years," said Italian Ambassador Giuseppe Panocchia.

Mayor Olmert is reported to have played down the importance of the boycott, seeing it as having little practical effect and noting that many European cities, including the Vatican, are making contributions to Jerusalem 3000. In any case, most of the \$7 million operating budget comes from the Ministry of Tourism and the municipality.

One nevertheless doubts if the mayor would approve of the following classical example of hysterical overreaction in the local press: "Coming from a background whose history attests to the Spanish Inquisition, World Wars I and II, the Holocaust, and lately the massacres in Bosnia,

only mention of Islam in the program is in an exhibition depicting its contribution to Western culture, science, and art.

It is early to judge the actual program, some of which looks dramatic and promising. The most impressive part of the brochure is the list of about 100 conventions. There are some Christian events, but hardly any expression of the approximately

one-third of Jerusalem's population which is Moslem.

In his speech at the opening of the city council in December 1993, Olmert, then newly elected, stressed his concern for Jewish sovereignty and said that "we need a correct balance to solve our historic conflict with the Arabs and the Palestinians." He opposed "concessions on... the most basic core of our national existence."

Olmert was elected on a less pluralistic platform than that of his predecessor. Five years ago, even Teddy Kollek admitted in an interview that "we have never given [the Arabs in Jerusalem] a feeling of being equal before the law. They were and remain sec-

ond- and third-class citizens." Comparing Kollek to Olmert, there comes to mind the Hebrew saying: "If cedars have caught fire, what will the moss do?"

However, today it is Olmert who serves as chairman of the Jerusalem 3000 committee, and he more or less tells the EU: If you don't like it, you can lump it. He is opposed to the peace process, and interested in putting over a certain political message concerning Jerusalem, even if - as Teddy Kollek intimated - this political stress is not the best way to assure international support.

To stress Jewish sovereignty is fair enough, but so as to endow the celebrations with a wider, more pluralistic and universal appeal, it might have been preferable to choose a chairman more sensitive to the city's varied population, better tuned to recognize its diversity.

If this is a "concession," it is only to the hard fact that just as in spiritual terms Jerusalem is sacred to three religions, so in political terms it belongs to two peoples. Far from threatening Jewish rights in Jerusalem, this sort of "concession" could only benefit all Jerusalemites and facilitate a richer and more comprehensive celebration.

The author, a Jerusalemite, is co-managing editor of the Palestine-Israel Journal.

POSTSCRIPT

AN ISLAMIC court cut off part of a woman's lower lip after the woman was found to have bitten off a section of another woman's lip in a fight.

The judges found Raho Omar Mohammed, 25, guilty of biting off part of Zelmab Abukar Haji Ali's lip. They suggested forgiveness or compensation, but Ali insisted Mohammed lose part of

her lower lip.

The judges measured the flesh bitten from Ali and cut away an equal sized-area with a razor blade.

"We were afraid scissors would cut more than the desired portion," a judge said. "Unfortunately doctors did not want to cooperate with the court in cutting the lip."

مكتبة الناصرة

More gore

HANNA SEMER

AS if there wasn't enough bloodshed in this part of the world — bloodshed of the kind that must be reported — our media act as if they were thirsty for more.

Pick up a newspaper. You'll see dozens of pages covering every tragedy from every possible angle. There are huge pictures of bleeding victims, weeping relatives and screaming neighbors.

We have surely seen enough blood in a series of terror acts, in the ongoing warfare in South Lebanon, in a stream of horrendous traffic accidents.

Yet, it seems, the press is addicted to the color red, liberally sprinkling the pages of our newspapers with endless stories about domestic violence.

Television is the worst culprit. It shows mourning in progress, a mother tearing out her hair, a crowd on the verge of an infatuation.

Our media are addicted to the color red — and yellow, and blue

When an Ethiopian immigrant murdered a woman from his community because she refused to implement a childhood marriage contract negotiated by the parents, it was reported — and that's probably as it should have been.

But there was no justification for the front-page treatment the story got, complete with pictures and all the gory details.

Since no one has claimed any wrongdoing by any public authority, and, clearly, no one is out to defame the entire Ethiopian community, the editors had only one probable motive in blowing up the story: the desire to appeal to the reader's prurience, to use the scent of blood to carry him along. It has the same sort of appeal as the urge to peep into a victim's bedroom.

Our press has begun to thrive on tragedy, and the electronic media, which only a few years ago refused to compete on this basis, have now eagerly joined in the quest for blood — and the redder the better.

THE SAME goes for the color yellow. Tabloid journalism seems to be the order of the day.

To read some of our newspapers, one would think that many Israeli fathers regularly rape their daughters as a matter of course.

The media do not invent these stories; but they keep harping on them, in bold print and across several columns: first when they are uncovered, then when charges are filed, and again when the verdict is read.

Even then the story isn't over. There are always the "What are they doing now?" follow-ups.

To get a mention in the media these days, it seems, you have to be either a victim or a perpetrator (even if only suspected) of a crime.

Nowadays the media is especially interested in sexual abuse by parents, in rape and battered wives.

Women who are lucky enough to evade this fate must be content with media indifference — unless they happen to be spotted in the company of singer Aviv Geffen or some other way-out celebrity, in which case they might appear in the gossip columns.

If they aspire to appear on a television show, offer their opinions on the radio, or get written up in the papers, complete with analysis and a "man in the street" poll, they probably have to be abused by a rabbi. Again, it seems, the yellower, the meatier, the better.

After television got into broadcasting in color, and newspapers invested in color printing, their stories too started to become more colorful.

Three colors predominate in the media's flag: tabloid-yellow, blood-red, and porno-blue.

The writer is a former editor of Davar.

The eight-page New York Times Weekly Review including US and world news and views, business, arts and crossword distributed free with THE JERUSALEM POST every Monday



A crisis of national purpose

ALLAN E. SHAPIRO

The loss of confidence in Rabin doesn't mean there is confidence in some other political force

WITH the waning of support for the incumbent government, Israel faces a double crisis: one of leadership and one of national purpose.

We have entered an era of personal politics without personalities, growing out of the remains of a system of ideological politics without ideologies.

If Benjamin Netanyahu is elected in the personal election for prime minister in 1996, it will be because Yitzhak Rabin lost, not because Netanyahu won.

In a recent *New York Times Book Review* essay, Henry Kissinger makes the distinction between heroes and superstars among political leaders.

"Superstars," writes Kissinger, "strive for approbation; heroes walk alone. Superstars crave consensus; heroes define themselves by the judgment of a future they see it as their task to bring about."

In these terms, Rabin qualifies as a hero, while Netanyahu is no superstar.

Rabin is not just a loner. He projects a sense of personal and national mission. His return to the political helm had the Gaullist redeemer quality, along with the imperial touch ("I will decide; I will navigate; I will choose").

In retrospect, there is a hint of the observation of the British literary critic Cyril Connolly, that those whom the gods wish to destroy they first call promising.

That Netanyahu is no superstar is, of course, to his credit. There may be more there than meets the eye — or the television camera. He seems to have backed off from his earlier political exploitation of terrorist outrages.

Except for one brief appearance, he did not identify himself with the latest hunger strikers camped outside the Prime Minister's Office.

Inside the yuppie politician, in a hurry to make it to the top, there may be a responsible statesman trying to get out.

Answering a direct query from a CNN interviewer, whether, if elected, he would talk with

Yasser Arafat, Netanyahu adopted a position on the lines of the Yairiv-Shemtov formula of two decades ago: He would talk with any Arab leader who renounced terrorism and recognized Israel's right to exist. Unlike Benny Begin, he did not rule out talking to Arafat.

Netanyahu has made any number of statements opposing a withdrawal from the Golan. His real commitment, however, where he really lives, is in opposition to a redivision of Mandatory Palestine.

Conor Cruise O'Brien, reviewing Netanyahu's *A Place Among the Nations*, expressed the view that a statesman concerned with retaining control of Judea and Samaria would understand the need to sacrifice the Golan Heights. "I believe," he concluded, "that Mr. Netanyahu, if called to power in Israel, will prove to be a statesman."

THIS, however, is all in the future. In the present, it is not unfair to conclude that Netanyahu inspires neither confidence nor enthusiasm. In this, he is distinguished from other political

figures on the right. The obvious dominant characteristic of the recent wave of political protest — the short-lived hunger strike, the street demonstrations, the highway hooliganism of Zo Artzenu — is the lack of response by the mass secular public.

Indeed, at the lowest level, the protest seemed aimed not at the government, but at the political system as a whole. Its most authentic spokesman was, Mokedet leader Rehavam Ze'evi, once considered a candidate for police minister in the Shamir cabinet.

Ze'evi announced on the floor of the Knesset that a list would be kept of policemen who would be dealt with when "we" (undefined) come to power. He also let it be known that police use of tear gas in riot control would be considered comparable to the use of lethal weapons, and would evoke an appropriate response. He also knew, he declared, how to deal with police horses and their riders.

Beyond the gangland tone of Ze'evi's statements, the message of the street protests was crystallized in the hostile reception accorded President Weizman, who found his consensus leadership decisively spurned in his abortive sortie into the street in the immediate aftermath of the Jerusalem bus bombing. Weizman, after all, had earlier raised the very demands that have become the core program of the political protests.

The contest for leadership is not a zero-sum game. The loss of confidence in Rabin does not mean that confidence has been accorded some other political force. Instead, the crisis of leadership becomes translated into a crisis of national purpose. If there is any true national consensus, it is in the pervasive sense of the loss of direction.

The writer is a legal and political commentator.

Beware the tyrants at the gate

ARIEL SHARON

FOR a full week we were on a hunger strike in front of the government buildings in Jerusalem. Thousands came in an unending human stream from early morning until after midnight to shake our hands, identify with us, and offer encouragement. Soldiers, officers, and combat veterans came. So did barefoot, Orthodox, and knitted-kippa wearers. And there were secular people too, men and women, young and old.

Politicians also came, but only a few. Most of them preferred to sit somewhere on the fence. In a year or so, they will be seeking to get reelected.

What brought great rabbis to leave their students and join the hunger strike? What led renowned professors to leave their ivory towers for a sun-drenched tent in the torrid summer heat? What caused farmers to abandon their fields, farms and crop-sprinklers, their lowing cows and clucking chickens for a hunger strike?

And what brought housewives and ordinary citizens to our tent? What moved senior commanders, with years of battle behind them, to lie in sleeping bags on ground they and their comrades had drenched with their blood through years of wars in Israel's defense?

And what brought the few Knesset members to that hillock opposite the government buildings? What brought me?

WE ALL had one thing in common: anxiety, concern for Israel's fate and the Jewish people's future. We shared apprehension over the government's mad rush in a failed process; over the continuation of that process without even an attempt to restore Israel's control over the battle against terrorism.

It was worry over our impotence in this battle that brought us there, worry over the government's reluctance to act against terror. It was the loss of Israel's deterrent power among the Arab states; and the flight of Jewish soldiers from their Jericho post; and the burning — not for the first time — of Israel's flag by a Palestinian mob.

We were impelled by our dread of the government's lies, deceit and malice; by the cooperation with Israel's greatest foes against our Jewish brothers; by the government's posture of hatred for Jews, flattery for Arabs.

At the end of the hunger strike, we called for a solidarity gathering. We made a lawful application for police permits, and made clear our intention to hold a peaceful assembly. My stand on this is known, and I have repeated it daily: I believe in "quiet shouting" demonstrations, a protest in silence, if possible.

The permits were granted. But when a quiet crowd gathered on the lawn, hundreds of police, perhaps 1,000, confronted it. Others spread out in the area and around the Prime Minister's Office (this time wearing name tags). The first line of defense was outside the fence, a second inside the iron wall around the building. Rein-

forcements were massed, in a maximal state of readiness.

All this, against a counterpoint of statements by government ministers about the growing danger of physical harm to public figures from the extreme right. One minister speaks of "reports" of planned violence. Another, more cautious, corrects this to "assessments."

The permits for the gathering had been granted, but vehicles were stopped by the police two kilometers away; tired pedestrians were directed to a long roundabout route, even when they were only 200 or 300 meters from the lawn. And when they came around, they were stopped yet again. Only four people were allowed to walk together at a time, even the elderly, some of whom walked with difficulty, using canes.

What more does the government intend to do against Jews as part of its deal with the Palestinians?

Were the police really afraid that we would storm the Prime Minister's Office? Was this plain, unadulterated harassment? Or was it an unabashed cynical ploy?

One very senior police commander remarked, "We haven't had to arrest people; we just prevented them from getting here..."

Or was it the paranoia of leaders in decline?

It is painful, even unacceptable to make such comparisons — but one wonders whether our people still remember Stalin's blood libels. They enabled him to carry out the great purges of the '30s, in which he wiped out the top echelons of the Red Army and equipped its finest commanders, including many Jews. It was those purges which caused the initial Soviet military collapse at the start of the war with Nazi Germany.

Similar libels enabled Stalin to eliminate Jewish intellectuals and artists at the end of the '40s, and plan the annihilation of Jewish doctors at the start of the '50s. It all began with "reports" or "assessments" of ostensible intentions to assassinate the leaders.

Where is all this leading? What more does the government intend to do against Jews as part of its deal with the Palestinians? What is happening to Israeli democracy and law, of which we are so proud, that has now been suddenly trampled on by the government?

Even those who are willing to give up areas of their homeland, and who no longer want to keep the Temple Mount, the Cave of the Patriarchs, Shiloh and Beit El, must join ranks to stop this government.

And we must all call out, loud and clear: "Beware, tyrants are at the gate!"

The writer, a Likud MK, is a former defense minister.

To The Shalom Jerusalem Hotel

Our thanks and appreciation for the successful organization of our International Congress

SPUDM-15

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Algiers car bomb kills seven, wounds 100

ALGIERS, Algeria (AP) — A bomb-laden car exploded yesterday in a crowded square outside Algeria's main police headquarters, killing seven people and injuring 100, authorities said.

State-run radio said a suicide bomber drove the car that exploded in a powerful blast just before noon, leaving a huge hole in the road and damaging the national police headquarters and a high school, closed for summer. That report could not be officially confirmed.

There was no immediate claim of responsibility for the 11:50 a.m. attack in the Bab El Oued district, near the center of the capital.

But suspicion immediately fell on Islamic extremists engaged in an insurgency aimed at toppling the military-backed government.

President Liamine Zeroual visited the scene of the attack, denouncing the "barbarous act that reveals the exclusively criminal motives of terrorist violence," a communiqué said.

The family of
EMANUEL KALISH
announces with sorrow the passing of our beloved

MANNY מנחם

Funeral will take place Friday, September 1, at 2:30 p.m. (1 and 1/2 hour after El Al flight no. 2 lands) at Eretz Hachayim cemetery in Beit Shemesh. Bus will leave from Yeshurun synagogue, Shmuel Hanagid St., Jerusalem at 1:30 p.m. Shiva will be at the home of Strajcher, 134/30 Ma'atol Dafna St., Entrance 4, 02-811697 on Saturday night until 10:30 p.m.

For further information call 639250 or 247319.



The Principal, President, Board of Governors and Old Collegians' Association of Mount Scopus Memorial College, Melbourne, Australia acknowledge in sadness the passing of its Founding Principal

ABRAHAM (ABE) FEIGLIN

Rosh Hodesh Elul 5755

TIKVAH

The Directors and Staff
extend heartfelt condolences to
David Blumberg and Family
on the passing of his mother

TOVAH טובה

The unveiling of a monument in memory of

Rabbi LOUIS BERNSTEIN ר' לוי

will take place on Wednesday, September 6, at 4 p.m., at

Eretz Hachayim Cemetery, Beit Shemesh.

A bus will leave at 3 p.m. from the RCA office,
18 B'nai B'rith Street, Jerusalem.

For information, call 02-251 923 mornings.

On the first *yahrzeit* of

CHANA (Harriet) DORFMAN חנה

we shall meet at the entrance to Har Tamir

Cemetery, Givat Shaul, Jerusalem, on Monday,
September 4, 1995 (9 Elul) at 4:15 p.m.

The Family

To Judy Segal

With you in your grief, on the loss of your mother

ANN MOLDAVI

The Abramowitz, Alexander, Frankel,
Grossberg, Hammer, Harel, Laderman and
Rosenfeld Families

We deeply mourn the death of our beloved

Judge DAVID COHEN

of Cape Town

on August 28

Edna Cohen and the Jaffee family, Cape Town

Emily Maissel and family, Nazareth Illit

Judith and Joe Hanson, 7/4 Rosh Pina, Netanya

To mark the thirtieth day, after the death of

MILLIE FISHER מילי

we will visit her grave at Kibbutz Einat on

Thursday, September 7, 1995, at 5 p.m.

The Family

We mourn the loss of our beloved wife, mother,
grandmother, sister and aunt

ZELDA DICK

a leader and active member of many national Jewish
organizations, whose wise counsel will be sorely missed

Deeply mourned by:

Husband: Jerome Dick, and children, Arlington, Va.

Sisters: Bessie, and Charles Goodall,

Tulsa, Okla. and families

Yetta Goldberg and families,

St. Louis, Mo.



Bosnian Serb army commander-in-chief General Ratko Mladic visits his wounded soldiers in Pale. (AP)

NATO strikes continue, along with peace moves

NATO warplanes carried out a second day of raids on Bosnian Serb targets yesterday as the United States, spearheading a twin-track, carrot-and-stick policy, pressed ahead with peace initiatives.

"There have been raids today on targets in Serb-held Bosnia," a NATO in Brussels told Reuters. He declined to give any further details.

The Bosnian Serb news agency SRNA said NATO aircraft struck at targets northeast of Sarajevo.

NATO has vowed not to halt air strikes until the siege of Sarajevo is lifted and all heavy weapons removed from positions from where they can threaten the city.

Reviewing the results of the first phase of its blitz, on Wednesday, the alliance claimed significant successes.

On the diplomatic front a potential split among the five-nation Contact Group seeking a

KURT SCHORK
SARAJEVO

peace settlement was healed when Russia, softening its original criticism, said the Serbs had only themselves to blame for the pounding they were taking.

They had "crossed certain limits beyond which the actions of the parties in the Bosnian conflict cannot be left without a response," a top foreign ministry official in Moscow said.

In Zagreb, Croatia said it expected a serious peace process to begin in former Yugoslavia now that Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic had taken control of negotiations for Bosnian Serbs.

Milosevic on Wednesday announced that the Bosnian Serbs had agreed to give him a veto over terms of a peace deal that would now be bargained out by a six-man team, three of whom

would be from the breakaway Serb "republic" inside Bosnia.

"(Croatian) President (Franjo) Tudjman and I agreed that the announcement... constitutes a procedural breakthrough but only a procedural one, that the tough negotiations lie ahead," US special envoy Richard Holbrooke said after talks in Zagreb.

Holbrooke was shuttling back to Belgrade later.

Bosnian Foreign Minister Moammod Sacirbey cast doubt on whether Bosnian Serbs were ready to talk peace and said NATO should continue its air strikes to free Bosnian safe areas.

"We [the Bosnian government] prefer that NATO continue the commitment they have made, that is to free the safe areas, particularly Sarajevo, from terrorist attacks," Sacirbey told reporters talks with Tudjman. (Reuters)

'Politically correct' New Testament

NEW YORK (Reuters) — The New Testament gets a major facelift this month with a new English translation eliminating references to God the Father, turning the Son of Man into "the human one" and removing accusations that Jews killed Christ.

The new translation says children should not "obey" their parents but heed them. Wives are no longer "subject" to their husbands but committed to them. "Darkness" is no longer equated with evil because of racist overtones, and the "Lord's Prayer" now begins "Our Father-Mother in heaven."

References to the right hand of God are also deleted, eliminating possible embarrassment to left-handed people. It now becomes God's mighty hand. The editors of *The New Testament and Psalms: An Inclusive Version* deny they have spent the last five years producing a "politically correct" Bible, but admit that a legion of traditionalists are waiting in the wings to "cast the first stone" and begin one of the biggest Bible debates in years.

Some critics have already charged that the editors have censored the Bible in order to make it fit the political trends of the day.

The book will be published on September 11 by Oxford University Press, a major publisher of biblical translations.

"This translation is aimed at churches and Christians who are thoughtful about the way the Bible includes everyone," said Susan Brooks Thistlethwaite of the Chicago Theological Seminary, who is one of the six editors. "I think political correctness is a pejorative term which is used by people who want the Bible to produce obedience not thoughtfulness."

"I have had people say to me: 'If the King James version of the Bible was good enough for Jesus, it's good enough for me,'" she added.

Thistlethwaite said the editors were proud of the way they handled the antisemitic overtones of the New Testament.

For example, they have eliminated all references

to the Jews killing Jesus as in *Thessalonians 2:14-15*, which in standard translations says: "... for you suffered the same things from your own compatriots as they did from the Jews who killed both the Lord Jesus and the prophets."

That becomes in the inclusive translation: "... for you suffered the same from your own compatriots as they did from those who killed the Lord Jesus and the prophets."

"I believe we are one of the first translations to take on the issue of antisemitism," Thistlethwaite said. "The New Testament consists of Jews talking to Jews. They are not saying the Jews are bad, they are saying 'We Jews over here disagree with you Jews over there.' When John talks of Jews he means Jewish leaders."

The translation also makes a great effort to reduce the number of times God is referred to as Lord because lords as a ruling group are passe.

"The Lord God doesn't cut it these days because we don't have lords. I thought of using the phrase 'The One to Whom You Swear Allegiance,' but frankly that was awkward. We often use the phrase 'Most High,' because it is more accurate," Thistlethwaite said.

The 23rd Psalm, which used to begin "The Lord is my shepherd" now starts "God is my shepherd," and the pronoun "He" is dropped entirely from the poem.

The word "slaves" is also dropped in the new translation, replaced by "people who were enslaved," and the phrase "the blind" becomes "people who are blind." But the editors drew a line at calling disabled people "differently abled."

Thistlethwaite insisted in an interview that the authors of the King James version "felt themselves much freer to depart from the original word of the text than we did."

For example, in the King James version the phrase, "God regards not the legs of the runner," becomes: "The race is not to the swift."

Punjab chief minister killed in bomb blast

CHANDIGARH, India (AP) — Suspected Sikh militants blew up the car of Punjab's highest elected official yesterday, killing him and 12 others and raising fears that the separatist movement might revive in the northern state.

Chief Minister Beant Singh was getting into his bulletproof car outside the 10-story government headquarters building in the capital, Chandigarh, when the explosion went off in his car, information Secretary S.S. Dawra told The Associated Press.

No one immediately claimed responsibility for the blast, but Punjab Police Chief K.P.S. Gill said suspicion fell on two Sikh separatist groups, the Babbar Khalsa and the Khalistan Liberation Force.

Both groups are among the survivors of the dozen militant outfits that were demanding a Sikh homeland, called Khalistan, or Land of the Pure, in Punjabi language.

Gill also said he would examine if Singh's security guards were involved in the assassination.

The daring attack in a heavily-guarded building could embolden Sikh guerrillas to strike at other buildings to embarrass the government of Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao, as he prepares for nationwide elections.

Rao's Congress Party has taken credit for what making Punjab what it describes as an oasis of peace.

Police Chief Gill said the explosion was powerful and caused by RDX, a chemical used in the 13 blasts that ripped across Bombay skyscrapers in 1993.

Singh's car and two other vehicles were ripped apart in the blast. Most of those dead were the chief minister's armed guards, and their mutilated bodies were flung all over the concrete porch of the state secretariat building, police and witnesses said.

There was confusion about the death toll, with police frequently revising their estimate. Gill told a news conference at night that 13 people were killed and rescue workers had pieced together 11 bodies. He said 16 people were hospitalized with injuries.

WORLD BRIEFS

10 Kurdish rebels killed

SIRNAK (Reuters) — Ten Iraqi Kurdish rebels were killed and 11 wounded in a clash with Turkish Kurdish in northern Iraq yesterday, the Anatolian news agency said.

Oklahoma blast leg identified

OKLAHOMA CITY (Reuters) — Ending months of speculation, US forensic authorities said on Wednesday that a mystery leg discovered at the end of May in the rubble of the Oklahoma City bombing belongs to a black female.

According to the findings, the woman would be the 168th victim of the bombing. "The DNA analysis by the FBI has shown conclusively that the leg is not male, but female," a statement from Dr. Fred Jordan, Oklahoma's chief medical examiner said.

'The Jackal': France holding me illegally

PARIS (Reuters) — The international terrorist "Carlos the Jackal" accused France yesterday of holding him in jail illegally, without evidence to tie him to the killings and bombings it accuses him of masterminding.

Venezuelan-born Carlos, whose real name is Elich Ramirez Sanchez, complained that he was treated oppressively in solitary confinement in Fresnes prison near Paris, saying he had even been refused permission to study French.

Fourteen miners die in Spanish pit blast

MIERES, Spain (Reuters) — Fourteen miners were killed yesterday when a gas blast ripped through a coal mine in northern Spain, the mine owners said.

Bones of Czar Nicholas confirmed

WASHINGTON (AP) — American and Russian experts said yesterday that they've resolved the last shred of doubt: A DNA test "unambiguously confirms" that bones unearthed from a mass grave in Russia in 1991 are those of Nicholas II, last of the czars of all the Russians.

If the evidence is accepted in Russia, Nicholas, murdered in a cellar with his family and servants by the revolutionary Bolsheviks in 1918, can be given the ceremonial burial that was held up while the investigation was conducted.

"A great murder mystery spanning most of the decade is solved," Lt. Col. Victor Weeden, who runs the DNA laboratory for the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology, said yesterday.

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News in Focus

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 1995

9

Police weigh the morality of using gas against Jews



Police play rough whatever the assignment

Veteran reporter Larry Derfner recalls confrontations between police and the public in this eyewitness report

A couple of dozen right-wing demonstrators were trying to push their way into the slow-moving traffic near Jaffa Gate. Policemen were straining to push them back onto the grass.

A struggle for the street was on. Arms were flailing, everyone was shouting and then the police started hitting the protesters. One man got his brains pretty well scrambled; he wandered back to the grass, dropped his pants and urinated. An ambulance came to take him away.

This happened on July 12, 1994, the day Yasser Arafat arrived in Gaza. Hundreds of anti-government protesters were camped out in tents across the street from the Prime Minister's Office. They, too, would periodically try to surge into the traffic. A phalanx of policemen would shove them back, and when the pushing and shoving got out of hand, police would start swinging nightsticks.

The chant of "police state" was already popular at right-wing demonstrations. A couple of days after Arafat's arrival, at a giant protest on Jerusalem's Jaffa Road, Kiyat Arba activist Elyakim Ha'etzi remarked: "The security forces have become *kapos*. No, they're worse than *kapos*. The *kapos* were forced into [collaboration], but [Israeli security forces] do it of their own free will."

By now, it is a central creed of the right that the government is ordering police to attack demonstrators, to intimidate them into silence. There have been endless denials by police, who contend that the demonstrators are breaking the law, disrupting public order and are not above starting fights. The protesters are certain the government has sided the cops on them. Otherwise, why are they getting roughed up and swatted around?

In this view, it's as if Israeli police were never violent before. There are, however, reports to the contrary. An investigative committee appointed by Police Minister Moshe Shahal found last year that police violence against criminal suspects was "a real problem," considerably more so than in Western countries studied for comparison.

Panel chairman Prof. Mordechai Kremnitzer, former dean of

the Hebrew University Faculty of Law, said the committee did not look into the matter of police violence at political demonstrations. "But it's been my own impression that it has nothing to do with the political stripe of the protest," Kremnitzer said. "I think if demonstrations involve large-scale lawbreaking which constitutes a challenge to police authority, they sometimes invite violence on the part of police."

THIS HAS also been my impression of what happens at demonstrations by Israelis.

I once saw police wade in with horses and billy clubs against leftist protesters who'd gotten out of line.

It took place in front of Jerusalem's Binyanei Ha'uma in February 1986. Kach planned to hold a convention in the hall, and about 5,000 protesters came to the parking lot to prevent them from entering.

Whenever Kach members were spotted approaching the hall, protesters would lunge after them, but police held them back. Then the police formed a cordon around the Kach members and escorted them to the entrance along a path next to a tall brick wall. A few hundred demonstrators saw this and began surging en masse toward the Kachniks ... and the brick wall.

Just when a catastrophe seemed about to happen, police rode into the crowd on horseback, scattering the protesters. But some of the leftists were pinned against cars, or against people, or couldn't get out of the way of the horses. No matter. The mounted police methodically swung their billy clubs against them.

But the worst case of Israeli police violence I have ever seen

did not take place at a demonstration, and was not directed at Israelis. It was inflicted on Palestinians and had a definite political quality.

In July 1990, my army reserve unit was stationed in the center of Gaza City. Palestinian taxi drivers would park their cabs across the street, and we would order them to move on, but they'd always return. One day three or four young border policemen went up to the line of cabs, and began smashing the hoods with billy clubs and ripping the antennas off.

One border policeman went up to a driver whose window was open and punched him in the face. Another policeman in a jeep motioned over a Palestinian sitting on a bench. When the Palestinian came near, the policeman swung open the door of his jeep into the Palestinian's face.

The border policemen threw their billy clubs at the taxis and chased them away. Their mission completed, they jumped up and down and hugged one another, as though they'd just scored a goal in a soccer game.

Right-wing protesters can tell many stories about such incidents, but left-wingers can also relate a fair number of anecdotes of their own. As for unprovoked violence by Israeli police and soldiers against Palestinians, the eyewitness accounts by Palestinians, Israelis and foreigners would fill many, many filing cabinets.

Israeli police violence didn't begin after the Oslo accords were signed, and it has by no means been restricted to right-wing demonstrators. The right never paid much attention to it before, or justified it as police self-defense ... until it began happening to them.

ALLEGATIONS of police brutality are nothing new after a demonstration, regardless of whether it's by workers waiting to be fired from a bankrupt factory or by settlers opposing government policy.

But in recent weeks, with the increase of antigovernment demonstrations by the ad-hoc Zo Artzenu group, allegations of police brutality have escalated. Police have had the task of clearing roads blocked by demonstrators and, at the same time, have had to protect themselves as well.

The battle between police and the right wing came to a head this week when MK Rehavam Ze'evi (Mokedet) threatened that, if police at demonstrations use tear gas against protesters, "we will consider this live ammunition, and will respond accordingly.... Jews using gas against other Jews living in the Jewish state is the craziest thing imaginable."

He also called for the compilation of a blacklist of all "violent" policemen, so they can be "brought to justice when we get into power."

(Police Minister Moshe Shahal said Ze'evi's statements constituted a threat to the police, but it was decided not to press charges.)

Police are hesitant to use tear gas against any Jewish demonstrators because of the highly charged associations with the Holocaust, but Police Inspector-General Assaf Hefetz says tear gas is preferable to beatings.

"Tear gas neutralizes, and leaves no long-term effects," he said. "Having your head beaten with a truncheon is a lot more harmful. Gas is more elegant than being beaten."

Surprisingly, one of the supporters of tear-gassing Jewish rioters is Dan Yakir, attorney for the Association for Civil Rights in Israel. The association has recently been defending the rights of settlers who denigrated ACRI in the past because of its record in defending the rights of Palestinians.

Police violence against protesters has reached new heights, Yakir said, making tear gas the preferred option for crowd control.

Hefetz said tear gas has been used against Israeli demonstrators on rare occasions, for example when "an angry mob charged a very small number of policemen, endangering their lives."

This reporter remembers tear gas fired at rioting Israeli Arabs in Jaffa the day after the 1994 Hebron massacre.

It was uncomfortable for a few

Protesters are getting bolder, raising questions about how far police can go in controlling them, Raine Marcus reports

minutes, but it dispersed thousands of angry rioters who had torched businesses and cars, and injured police, reporters and bystanders.

HEFETZ ADMITTED that a policeman may become violent, but added that it is the exception. "In principle, the police use force, not violence, and only when necessary," he said, explaining. "Violence is a term used by those who are hurt."

Police resorted to force when intifada rioters put police and soldiers in life-threatening situations, he stressed. Rubber bullets, which can kill, were used in the intifada, but have never been fired against Jews.

Water cannons, of which the country has five, may also be used to disperse demonstrators. Mounted police are also extremely effective in dispersing demonstrators.

However, Yakir argued that police have the duty not to control crowds but "to help protesters exercise their civil and basic rights to demonstrate, and to defend demonstrators from those who could harm them."

Police should show sensitivity and restraint in dealing with demonstrators, even if the gathering is declared illegal, "as long as there is no disorder," Yakir said. "But the basic right to protest is not a license to break the law or to disrupt the peace."

Yakir agreed that in situations where roads are blocked or life is endangered, it is the police's duty to disperse the demonstration and to arrest offenders, using "reasonable force" sufficient just to overcome rioters, but not "violence for the sake of violence."

There is a fine line between force and violence, Hefetz explained it as when a protester whom police wish to apprehend has stopped resisting arrest but is still being beaten.

ACRI recently forwarded scores of complaints about police brutality to the Justice Ministry's internal investigations division, but Hefetz said there are complaints after every legitimate display of force.

Yakir countered that many po-



Inspector-General Assaf Hefetz: 'Police use force, not violence.' (Efraim Kishitok)

lice at demonstrations do not wear the mandatory nametags, making it difficult for the complainant to identify police who are allegedly brutal.

The use of force also depends on the area of the demonstration, on the population involved, and on the district police commander and his policy.

Around six months ago, when a soldier fired shots in a Jaffa church, injuring no one but causing severe damage, Tel Aviv Police Chief Gabi Last decided to exercise restraint against Arab rioters. He ordered police to keep a low profile and senior officers left the scene.

A few hours later, hundreds of Arab residents starting hurling stones and burning tires. In the ensuing disturbance, a couple of police vans were torched and arrests were made.

Police dispersed the crowds, using force, but Last persisted in his policy of restraint.

About 24 hours later, Jaffa had returned to normal. But tempers seem to run higher when it comes to antigovernment demonstrators battling for what they believe is the future of the State of Israel.

Protests in the capital have been far more violent than demonstrations in Tel Aviv or

Ra'anana.

Massive turnouts by Zo Artzenu, many of whose leaders face criminal charges, obligate police to use much more force than previously, Hefetz said. Individual policemen, acting on orders, may not always know the limits.

"At the end of the day the policeman must succeed in his mission," said Hefetz. "He doesn't always know how far the demonstrator is prepared to go. On occasion, a demonstrator may be extremely hot-tempered and resist any attempt by the police to restore some sort of order. As long as the protesters' resistance is stronger, the policeman has to use more force."

Over the last six weeks, said Hefetz, police have used "a lot of force to disperse demonstrations and to make arrests, when necessary."

POLICE, even though some may personally sympathize with the demonstrators' cause, are often cursed, spat on, beaten and called Nazis.

"The police must be apolitical," said Hefetz, "regardless of individual opinions. That is one of the most complex and difficult problems facing the police in demonstrations."

The number of police used to control demonstrations depends on the anticipated turnout and whether the gathering is authorized or not.

The police often photograph crowds and use electronic surveillance to monitor them. Such methods were used in Tel Aviv's Kikar Malchei Yisrael last year in a mass right-wing demonstration, though a permit was issued for it, shortly after Kach and the splinter group Kahane Hai were outlawed and several members were sought by the police. In demonstrations which police fear may turn violent, plainclothes detectives are sent to mingle in the crowds.

The public is paying the price. "Instead of fighting crime or dealing with internal security, the police have to be drafted in large numbers to intensively control illegal demonstrations," Hefetz said.

There have been no fatalities during the series of antigovernment rallies.

"We must not ignore complaints by demonstrators," Hefetz said. "We should take them seriously and examine ourselves too. Maybe we should even embark on information campaigns for police who are sent to control demonstrations."

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'It's just not possible to continue ruling another people'

Evergreen politician Abba Eban shares his views with David Makovsky about Palestinian autonomy and possibilities for peace.

Abba Eban, 80, asked this week by Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin to join the Israeli delegation participating in the UN's 50th anniversary session, speaks about the historic significance of the impending agreement with the Palestinians. He also recalls the mood of the cabinet in 1967 when the territories were captured, and seeks to set the record straight about a comment he made after the Six Day War about Auschwitz.

Israel is about to sign an agreement expanding Palestinian autonomy throughout the territories. How would you put this moment in the greater historical context of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Some would call this the "end of occupation." Do you think the process is irreversible?

I think it is irreversible. The idea that Israeli soldiers would march back into Gaza or Jericho is absurd. Once you have the dynamic of decolonization, there is no case where it has ever gone back. It has been delayed, slowed down, but not gone back.

It is not possible for one nation

to rule another. This has nothing to do with whether it is justified or legitimate. I think the argument should be much less that it is not right than it is not possible. [It is] what the British could not do in India, what the French could not do in Algeria, what the Dutch could not do in Indonesia, and what the Portuguese could not do in Angola.

It is also a world where everybody is talking to everybody: Rabin speaks to [Yasser] Arafat, like [F.W.] de Klerk speaks to [Nelson] Mandela, and the British speak to the IRA [Irish Republican Army].

Isn't it unfair to bracket Israel with countries which practiced economic colonialism and often at great distances, when Israel believes its control of the territories has been rooted in defensive, security reasons mixed with a historic link?

Proximity works both ways. Proximity makes it more painful. The historic-religious element makes it much more difficult [for Israel] than [it was] for the British to get out of Malaysia. The [argu-

ment for] proximity is more dubious because the territories have not brought more security. To the contrary, every withdrawal has increased our security. The job of protecting our conquests is costly. There were 650 dead in the War of Attrition, and 2,500 dead in Yom Kippur, and then the intifada.

Critics on the right like to use a statement they said you made many years ago suggesting that the pre-1967 borders were the "Auschwitz lines." Did you say that?

I never said anything like the Auschwitz boundaries. After the 1967 war, [Russian President Andrei] Kosygin said in the General Assembly that Israel should go back to the previous situation: go back and be blockaded in the Straits of Tiran, go back and have 100,000 Egyptian troops breathing down our necks, and go back to the Syrian situation.

He also said we should compensate them [the Arabs] even though they tried to strangle us. I said that people who knew such things as Auschwitz were not going to renew that situation.

But the word Auschwitz and boundaries does not occur in anything that I ever said. Never did I believe our hold on the territories would be permanent and total.

But you were quoted in the German paper Der Spiegel in 1969 as being more explicit. You were quoted as saying, "We have openly said that the map will never again be the same as on June 4, 1967. For us this is a matter of security and of principles. The June map is for us equivalent to insecurity and danger. I do not



Abba Eban: If Arabs can live in Israel, what is wrong if the settlers stay? (Andre Brumman)

exaggerate when I say that it has for us something of a memory of Auschwitz."

The fact that this appeared in a German-language translation does not make me responsible for its precise wording. The vulnerability we faced in 1967 was due to the surrounding hostility at the time and not due to the delineation of the borders. States that are at peace with each other are competent to agree on any boundaries they see fit.

For Israel to have withdrawn with actively belligerent states on all its frontiers would have been sheer madness. To withdraw in agreement with Arabs at peace and the Soviet threat removed is sheer common sense. For Likud to confuse these two situations is sheer demagoguery.

You have been supportive of Palestinian statehood. Are you concerned about its impact on Israeli security? Could the area remain

without sovereignty?

First, it should be said that if you are supportive of Camp David and Oslo, then logic leads you to be supportive of the phase that will inescapably follow that: a state. People say it will be called an entity. But what exactly is the difference between that and a mini-state that will have no tanks or army? I would not say such a state would always be subordinate to Israel, but it will be very much dependent upon us and its relationship to Jordan.

Arafat has said that Israel could take back the whole area in three days. I think this is an exaggeration. It would probably take less time than that. Their vulnerability would be intense.

You don't want to put the Palestinians in a position that they have nothing to lose as it was before [during the intifada].

Rather, you want them to have something that you could withhold or confer, [in the event that] they misbehave. This is tremendous, and something the Palestinians never had before.

What was it like in 1967 in the cabinet, in which you served as foreign minister, after Israel captured the territories?

One must distinguish between the public mood which was ecstatic and cabinet [which] had an enormous sense of lucidity. We decided that we now have the opportunity to change the whole situation, not territorially, but in terms of our relationship with the Arabs.

We knew we needed an alliance with the Americans. My instructions were to tell the Americans that we were willing to return to the international boundary with Egypt in return for a peace treaty, return to the international boundary with Syria in return for a peace treaty, and that we were willing to enter into a dialogue with Jordan [about the territories]. We were not going to offer him everything, but the majority of the territories.

Menachem Begin was in the cabinet in 1967. He voted for returning to the international boundary with Syria. Is that true?

Yes. [Other hawk like] Moshe Dayan and Yisrael Galili did too. All of them accepted that we needed to change the structure, nature, and relationship with the Arabs. Ben-Gurion used to say

that "for true peace, we must give it all back but Jerusalem." He later added Hebron.

It was not long after the war that Yigal Allon called for adding other parts of the territories, namely the Jordan Valley. What brought this on?

I think it was due to a few factors. First, there was [three] noes off Khartoum, and then there was a proclamation full of Labor Party names calling for Israel to hold on to some of the territories. Then a settlement started in Kiryat Arba. But the Labor Party did not support settlements like the Likud. I think when Labor left office there were 7,000 settlers, while today there are 140,000. Today the boundary should move, but the settlers should stay. If Arabs can live in Israel, what is wrong if the settlers stay?

You want the Palestinians to have something that you could withhold in the event that they misbehave.

But would you keep east Jerusalem?

On east Jerusalem, I am not a compromiser. There are now intellectuals saying that the city should be the capital for both peoples. I do not think this is a feasible idea. First, Judaism and Islam are not equal in historic terms. There is not a single mention of Jerusalem in the Koran except of the journey of [Mohammed's] horse to heaven. They are also a minority in Jerusalem today.

If the Palestinians say they are the majority in the West Bank and majority should rule, fine. We are the majority in Jerusalem. I think it is very injurious for intellectuals to go around and undermine the government's position on such a consensus issue.

[But] I am not saying that Palestinians living in the city should not have the opinion of Palestinian citizenship.

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مكتبة الجليل



PA-Hamas collusion: Fact or fiction?

JON IMMANUEL

TWO of the most important unanswered questions as Israel and the Palestinian Authority move towards implementing the Oslo agreement beyond Gaza and Jericho, are: How sincere is the PA working to prevent terrorist attacks against Israelis? And: If the PA is sincere, can it succeed?

The questions divide supporters and opponents of the Oslo accords. The supporters say Oslo provides PA Chairman Yasser Arafat with the incentive to prevent Hamas from becoming a rival focus of authority. Oslo's opponents say Hamas and the PLO have the same fundamental goals, and the show of mutual antagonism is a ploy in the multi-pronged, continuing and coordinated war against Israel.

The stakes are high. Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin backed the Oslo track in the first place because he assumed that opening negotiations with the PLO would compel the PLO to contain Hamas.

To many Palestinians, that looked like an imperialist policy of divide and rule. Fatah activists openly said they would resist efforts to pit the PA against Hamas.

Certainly, Arafat has always preferred compromise to confrontation within the PLO, and there is reason to assume that as head of the PA he wanted to compromise with Hamas too.

Until April, the conventional wisdom was that Arafat was not doing much to prevent Hamas attacks against Israel. The guiding logic was that the PA would not touch Hamas as long as it directed its violence only against Israel, and did not operate from inside Gaza and Jericho. That was also the lesson of the shooting outside Gaza's Palestine Mosque, in which police killed 12 worshippers during a riot on November 2.

But, on April 9, Hamas and Islamic Jihad struck at two Israeli targets in Kfar Darom and Netzarim, killing seven Israelis and an American. The attacks had so obviously been launched from Gaza that the PA had to act.

It immediately activated the security courts it had established two months earlier, after the Beit Lid bombing, but which until April existed on paper only.

Since then, the PA has reported the arrests of suicide bombers on their way to attacks, and it has sentenced those who allegedly recruited children as suicide bombers. It has meted out jail terms of 10 years and more to some 20 offenders; it has arrested senior Hamas and Islamic Jihad political activists; and it has closed *Watan*, the Hamas weekly newspaper.

All this has not convinced the opponents of Oslo, who say it is in the interests of both Hamas and the PA to create the impression that they are in conflict, in order to encourage Israel to make more concessions on the way to the final showdown a few years down the road. Behind the arrests and the appearance of crackdowns, Hamas and the PLO are in constant negotiation, they say.

However, there are significant new developments.

PA Planning Minister Nabil Shaath said last week that dialogue between the PA and Hamas ended after the Ramat Gan attack in July, because that attack "contradicted an understanding we had that violence would end."

The significance of Shaath's remarks is that no one took responsibility for the Ramat Gan attack, which killed four, therefore no one knew if it was launched from Gaza or Jericho. The GSS revealed the names and origins of the Ramat Gan and Jerusalem bus bombings only last week.

But since the Ramat Gan attack on July 24, for which Hamas evaded official responsibility to avoid a direct conflict with the PA, "150 Hamas activists and members have been arrested," according to Imad Falouji, a senior Hamas activist himself.

These include leading Hamas representatives, such as Dr. Mahmoud Zahar, jailed a month ago despite Zahar's denial of any link between the "political" and "military" wings of Hamas.

The most impressive evidence for Oslo supporters is that on April 2, a week before the Kfar Darom bombing, there was an

explosion in what the Palestinian police insisted was "an explosives factory" in Gaza.

Hamas said the explosion was caused by Israeli agents who smuggled in a bomb by duping a child into carrying it. Although the evidence supporting the bomb-factory theory was not conclusive, the PA fully supported the theory, therefore boosting Israeli charges that attacks were planned in Gaza. The PA was therefore committed to taking action against Hamas. When the Kfar Darom bombing occurred a week later, it did.

But still, the impression of PA-Hamas collusion persists. In one case, on August 18, Palestinian police raided a house in the Sheikh Radwan neighborhood of Gaza, capturing Wael Nasser and Ahmad Salmi. Nasser had already been identified by Israeli intelligence as a suicide bomber planner. The arrests were made with difficulty as the police were attacked by angry neighbors in the strongly pro-Hamas neighborhood.

In the end, a compromise was reached, affirmed only by Hamas sources, through Falouji's mediation. The deal was the two would surrender if the police agreed to release them within one month.

The deal bolstered the "revolving door" theory of the anti-Oslo lobby, concerning arrests and releases, but could be a Hamas ploy to show its influence. Whether

Hamas still has supporters, and at least publicly no Palestinian official wants to be seen as its enemy

the police will release the two by September 18, despite evidence from the GSS against them, or worse still, the day after the signing of Oslo 2, remains to be seen.

The process of arrests continues as Oslo 2 approaches its signing date.

On Tuesday, Palestinian police said they captured a Khan Yunis bomber wrapped in an explosive belt on his way to a suicide mission in Jerusalem, plus four accomplices. On Wednesday night, they arrested three pro-Hamas journalists. The journalists were identified, the bomber and accomplices were not.

"I don't think the names will be given. Our position is that we don't give names for security reasons," said Marwan Kanafani, Arafat's spokesman.

Gen. Nasser Yusef, chief of Palestinian public security, dismisses attempts to find out whether Gaza police are seeking out "the engineer" Yihye Ayyash, who Israel says is in Gaza.

"We can't talk about everything," he says.

An element of doubt must always exist concerning cooperation and activity between different intelligence organizations. After all, secrecy is what intelligence-gathering is all about, and dissimulation is often involved.

Furthermore, public knowledge of PA-Israeli cooperation against Hamas would certainly harm Arafat's reputation among Palestinians, as well as Israel's future intelligence-gathering abilities. However, if it is not possible to be sure that Arafat is leveling with the Israelis, it is easier to check whether Hamas is leveling with Arafat, if leveling means acting to use terror only to increase Israeli concessions rather than to destroy the Oslo process.

US diplomatic sources who claim such knowledge say that "the conventional wisdom is that Islamic Jihad and Hamas were cooperating with the Palestinian Authority. But the conventional wisdom is wrong. We have seen, and we watch it closely, a continuous effort by Hamas to explode this process."

Still, the case of anti-Oslo Israelis is bolstered by the strong circumstantial evidence that Arafat appears to act only when pres-

sured hard by Israel. The security courts were established only after the Beit Lid massacre in January when Israel imposed a long closure on Gaza. Nobody was tried until the attack on Kfar Darom on April 9, when - that very same day - two Islamic Jihad members got long sentences after a one-hour trial for acts not connected with that attack.

The trials gradually stopped as the suicide attacks waned, only to be resumed immediately after the Jerusalem bus bombing two weeks ago, this time against three left-wing gunmen unconnected with that attack or with Hamas.

"When they are under pressure, they react differently, but there is growing understanding by Arafat, Mohammed Dahlan [preventive security chief in Gaza], Musa Arafat [military intelligence chief in Gaza], and Amin Hindi [yet another intelligence chief] that the future depends on their ability to exercise control.... We know of instances where they acted on information provided by the Israelis," the diplomatic sources say.

This cooperation does not yet extend so completely to Jericho, but Jericho has entered the security picture with the apparent escape to the town of members of the Jerusalem bombing cell. Jericho has become important since it also provides the model for other PA-ruled towns - starting with Jenin, Nablus, Tulkarm and Kalkiya, which will be freed from Israeli rule after Oslo 2.

If Jericho becomes a "terrorist sanctuary," so will the others. The arrest and sentencing of two Hamas men to 12 and seven years' imprisonment in a first-ever Jericho security trial gave many the impression that the aim was to protect them from Israel's "extradition-transfer" request rather than punish them.

Jericho's preventive security chief, Col. Jibril Rajoub, laughed off suggestions that the IDF closure of Jericho was coordinated with Israel to help his men catch a Hamas big shot fingered by the GSS.

"Every day we hear a different reason for the closure. But we are not hunting for any Hamas suspects in Jericho," he said.

Hamas still has many supporters, and at least publicly no Palestinian official wants to be seen as its enemy. Members of Hamas are usually referred to as "brothers," and Arafat talks about "Jihad and self-sacrifice unto death."

Arafat's media adviser, Nabil Abu Rndineh, said: "There are fanatics, and he is only speaking in the language they understand, but his commitment to the peace process is well known."

The fact is that, although the PA says Hamas violence is really aimed at toppling Arafat, the alleged Hamas-PA tension has not led to much bloodshed between them, except for the mosque bloodshed on November 2.

Until recently, Palestinian posters drew an alarming picture of Palestinian support for suicide bombings - as many as 30 percent, almost all the opposition to Oslo. Twice that number, that is many alleged supporters of the peace process, supported military attacks, meaning attacks on soldiers and settlers.

But if the "tense" relationship between the PA and Hamas is staged, one thing clearly is not staged. The social influence of Hamas, which reached its peak during the intifada, is slipping.

Most noteworthy is the fact that women are now more frequently seen in Western clothes in Gaza City than in a town like Jenin, where Hamas has no influence. The reason, given is the same. "We no longer fear Hamas." In smaller Gaza towns, however, tradition persists.

Fun fairs, circuses, nightclubs and other forms of social life not encouraged by Islamic militants have flourished in the past three months in Gaza. Local investment has increased, with greater stability and far fewer Hamas-looking types walking the streets. Palestinian plainclothes security men are everywhere.

Two weeks ago an advertisement by the "Higher Council of Islamic teachers" in *Al-Quds* condemned the entertainments in Gaza as "evil." Though considered an arm of Hamas, the group is based outside Gaza, away from immediate retribution. In Gaza itself, Hamas kept quiet.

The war against Hamas, whether it is conducted by the Palestinian Authority or Israeli security forces, has proven to be a formidable challenge whose results are still not certain



GSS keeps battling cells of Hamas hydra

ALON PINKAS

IN the sports sections of US and British newspapers, information about upcoming games is usually followed by a list of the latest results. It appears in letter form: "W" for a win, "D" for a draw, and "L" for a defeat.

A similar scoring system could illustrate the ongoing war of attrition between Israel and Hamas and its sister organization, the Islamic Jihad. "W" could represent a Hamas cell captured and a terror attack foiled; "L" would mean an attack carried out; and "D" could indicate that intelligence information has cracked a cell, or that Hamas activists were apprehended by the Palestinian Authority.

Only when - and if - the war ends will these results be tallied to provide the final score. Unfortunately, this is a real war and not a sporting event; a war waged against a fanatic and vicious adversary employing means - such as human bombs - against which no number of sophisticated jets, submarines or tanks can be effective.

In this war, the rules of the game have changed; the definitions of winning and losing are no longer the same. There is now almost no distinction between strategic and tactical aims. In a conventional war, tactical mistakes can be rectified at the operational level. In this war, mistakes mean losing the battle, and losing a few battles may mean defeat for the government at the strategic level - the peace process. There are no campaigns or major battles in this war, but a seemingly endless series of short "sudden death" operations which add up to a comprehensive war.

PRIME MINISTER and Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin may be right when he says that there are legal, constitutional and moral impediments blocking a total and effective clampdown on Hamas. But before it became a terror organization, Hamas was tolerated by the government, which ignored its rapid growth.

It was during Rabin's term as defense minister in the mid-1980s (and the terms of Moshe Arens and Ariel Sharon before him), that Hamas emerged as a viable socio-political force in the territories. In the late '80s, when the IDF and the General Security Service were preoccupied with the intifada, and the PLO was still perceived as a military adversary, Hamas thrived on the hardships which the Palestinian population suffered, offering its ultra-religious fundamentalist ideology as a panacea for all problems.

Throughout the '80s, Hamas was virtually left undisturbed to construct an expansive network of educational, welfare and religious institutions. Furthermore, Israel in effect assisted in the consolidation of Hamas, as Likud governments viewed the organization as a political means to weaken the PLO's popular appeal.

After the Madrid conference in 1991, and with the beginning of the Oslo process in 1993 and mutual recognition between Israel and the PLO, Hamas transformed itself entirely, making military and terror actions against Israel its top priority in an attempt to disrupt the Israeli-PLO agreements.

The type of terror employed by Hamas was unfamiliar to Israel. PLO terrorism in the '70s and '80s was termed "rational terror" by Israeli security officials. It was brutal, indiscriminate, but it followed certain rules and regulations. Hamas drew on the Hizbullah experience in Lebanon after the Israeli invasion in 1982. Suicide bombers were the rule, not the exception. Against this, the Israeli security establishment was ill prepared and the public showed its susceptibility to terrorism.

The GSS began to try to penetrate Hamas, but faced a model fundamentalist-terrorist organization.

"It was something we had never encountered, not at all similar to the PLO," said a senior security official who in the early '90s was part of a team monitoring Hamas activities.

Hamas proved to be a very compartmentalized organization, driven by religious fanaticism, its members highly motivated, dedicated and willing to sacrifice on both the individual and institutional level," the official said.

That presented Israel with formidable intelligence and operational problems: penetrating Hamas; monitoring and then acting against its cells; trying to decipher and second-guess its intentions; and preempting its modus operandi.

A little light was finally shed on this method last week, after the GSS cracked the Hamas cell responsible for the recent Ramat Gan and Jerusalem suicide bombings.

"Following an intensive and concentrated intelligence and field effort, the General Security Service exposed a Hamas cell believed to constitute the foundation of the organization's military

The suicide bomber, as the GSS head said, is only a human fuse, a substitute for an electrical device

operations in the Gaza Strip and Judea and Samaria," said the GSS head, G. "The effort was a concerted and comprehensive undertaking, but the GSS's investigations department delivered the final knockout after interrogating Abdel Nasser [Shaker Issa]. Nasser said he received his instructions from Muhammad. Diff, the most wanted Hamas member in Gaza, together with Yihye Ayyash [the engineer]."

"Once Abdel Nasser returned to Nablus from Gaza, he rented, under a false identity, an apartment in a high-rise in Nablus. Under general orders from Ayyash, he at first tried to scout for potential suicide bombers. He approached Labib [Anwar] Azem, a known activist in An-Najah University, and offered him [the chance] to join Izzadin el-Kassam. After Labib consented, Abdel Nasser prepared the explosive device in the Nablus apartment," G. said.

On July 24, Nasser drove Labib to Bnei Brak, where he boarded Dan bus No. 20 and blew himself up, killing six.

In the apartment where the devices were prepared, GSS agents

The punitive measures available to Israel are exactly those which Hamas welcomes

and soldiers discovered a laboratory equipped to manufacture chemically based explosives and assemble pipe-devices like those used in the Ramat Gan and Jerusalem bombings.

"Abdel Nasser was then instructed by Ayyash to seek suicide candidates in Judea, and was introduced to Sufiyan Jabarin. Nasser then prepared another pipe device and delivered it to Jabarin through Muhhi a-Din Sharif, who is still at large. Jabarin was told to carry out an attack in Jerusalem within two days of receiving the pipe device," the GSS head disclosed.

What has emerged is a modus operandi in which the suicide bomber is left with limited operational leverage, but he remains the one making the ultimate decision concerning the where and when of the attack. That means that, unless the bomber himself is caught, the probability of foiling an attack once the suicide bomber receives his orders is low.

THE GSS, which spearheads the war against Hamas, cannot claim victory if the planners of an attack are captured after it has been carried out. Long-term success is in essence the ability to discern patterns of development of Hamas cells while they are in their rudimentary stages. Durable accomplishments are all

about prevention and preemption. The suicide bomber, as the GSS head said, is only a human fuse, a substitute for a chemical or electrical detonation device. The objective is to disrupt the cell's operation before he is even recruited or before he is instructed to carry out an attack.

"This is what this war is about," said the senior official. It follows, then, that "special" interrogation measures, the subject of much debate in the last week, may be vital in foiling an attack, especially when the interrogated suspect is a "ticking bomb," someone who possesses knowledge of an impending attack. These measures are critical to win a battle, but insufficient to win the war.

In order to destroy Hamas, its military infrastructure must first be demolished. That infrastructure has proven in the past to be resilient and regenerative. Its ability to recruit, reorganize and plan attacks under pressure and following setbacks is impressive.

"The cracking of the Abdel Nasser cell, the elimination of the Hebron cell completed this week, and even the future capture of Yihye Ayyash, [could] all [be considered] major successes. But I'm afraid it won't mean the destruction of Hamas," the senior security official said.

It's a no-win situation. From a political-ideological point of view, the punitive measures available to Israel, such as prolonged closure of the territories or even deportation, are exactly those which Hamas welcomes. A fundamentalist organization thrives on poverty, unemployment and hopelessness.

Hamas's foundations are socio-political-religious, and it's vital not to destroy the educational and medical services that Hamas offers to the Palestinian population, which may prove to be counterproductive.

In the long run, other measures are available. First and foremost, extensive cooperation with the Palestinian Authority, which must realize that Hamas threatens every political achievement the PLO gains through negotiations.

Mass deportation of Hamas activists had only a limited success in 1992, yet Israel may be contemplating sending Hamas activists in West Bank universities back to their homes in the Gaza Strip. The closing down of mosques known to be Hamas hotbeds, halting the prisoner release process of Hamas members, and targeting specific individuals in the Gaza Strip and moving in on them, as the Cairo agreement allows for, are all measures currently under consideration.

A comprehensive war against Hamas must also involve a joint international effort. There are active Hamas offices in Jordan, and Hamas leaders operate from and reside in Damascus. Their financial network stretches from the US down to Latin America. Any effective clampdown must involve foreign governments either acting directly against Hamas or pressuring others to act.

In June, Hamas implied that it had reached a tacit agreement with the PA on a temporary cessation of all terror attacks against Israel from Gaza. Conventional wisdom was that the qualified announcement was due to a combination of two factors: a vigorous PA crackdown on Hamas, which led to a political and military weakening of the organization, and Hamas's decision to allow the PA to negotiate the implementation of the second phase of Oslo.

As the signing of the agreement neared, however, Hamas reneged on its commitment and intensified its attempts to disrupt the process.

"However, in the last two attacks, Hamas has purposely refrained from claiming responsibility and did not distribute the customary video-cassette showing the perpetrator, in an attempt to avoid head-on confrontation with the Palestinian Authority," the head of the GSS said.

Ultimately, security officials conclude, it is a war in which success primarily depends on intelligence information and tight cooperation with the PA. If these two elements are lacking, or are insufficient, the war will rage for a long time, regardless of the peace process.

Rough sailing for pirate radio stations

Newly licensed stations have paid to ride the radio waves, and they are demanding the pirates go.
Helen Kaye reports

UNTIL now the 32 pirate radio stations that operate all over the country have been like weeds in a garden, pesky but irrepressible.

However, now that four of the seven newly licensed regional radio stations are due to begin broadcasting, the pirates have to go.

Not only do they illegally appropriate the FM frequencies, but they also grab the advertising revenues that the new regional stations need in order to survive.

The fine for illegal use of the airwaves can be as high as NIS 2.28 million, and violators are also liable to a three-year jail term. Between June 1994 and July 1995, the police followed up 107 complaints, and confiscated equipment some 30 times.

The record was six seizures from Arutz 2000, a station broadcasting from somewhere in the south Tel Aviv area.

Arutz 2000, an ultra-Orthodox pirate transmitter, was one of 12 stations the police swooped on during June and July, following a complaint by the Second Radio and Television Authority that issues licenses.

As of this writing, most of these stations are once again merely broadcasting away.

Galei Yam Hachon was a close runner-up in the confiscation stakes. A telephone trail led to Yossi Cohen (a pseudonym), who said that pirate radio operators often use aliases.

Cohen said that each of the three times the police raided his station, "they confiscated equipment worth about \$100,000. They arrested us, and there's to be a trial, but they let each of us out on NIS 5,000 bail. We've stopped broadcasting since the last raid [on June 29], but we'll start again next month from a ship outside Israel's territorial waters on FM 95.1, the same frequency we used on land."

The extraterritorial Arutz 7 is the most notorious of the illegal

radio stations.

Its studio is in Beit El, but it transmits from a ship some 32 km. offshore. The police raided the vessel on July 31 when it docked in Ashdod harbor, claiming that it had been broadcasting on the way in.

Nobody seemed to care that the other stations had been closed, but the closure of the very popular, very outspoken, and many say very right-wing Arutz 7 raised a furor in the Knesset among its supporters and detractors.

It was even said that Arts, Science and Communications Minister Shulamit Aloni had recommended special consideration from the Knesset Committee on the Second Channel Radio and TV Broadcasts for Arutz 7, and also for the Voice of Peace, Abie Nathan's radio station.

(Nathan has reportedly requested a license to operate a new Voice of Peace.)

The minister's office denied that such a request had been made, and so did MK Avraham Poraz, who heads the committee.

"We make no decisions as to who may or may not submit a tender for licensing [as a regional radio station]. We issue the tender and all those who conform to its regulations may submit."

Strictly speaking, Arutz 7, because it operates outside Israel, is not illegal even though it broadcasts on FM 105.2, which is illegal. Complicated? Yes. Israeli law relevant to its radio frequencies is based on the Mandatory "Radio Telegraph Order." Basically, the law says that radio frequencies are under government control and supervision, and that nobody may broadcast without permission.

Naturally the pirate stations, and the term refers mostly to their absconding with airwaves, as it were, do not endorse this view.

"There are about 150 frequencies in Ya," says Arutz 7's founder Yacov Katz, "and they don't belong to anybody."

"The question to ask," says Galei Yam Tichon's lawyer Ari Shamai, "is why limit the number of radio stations in the first

place?" His clients agree. So does NRG's Gil Elimelech (see sidebar). They think that market conditions will ensure the survival of the fittest and that regulation is just another form of government control.

Not so, argues Poraz, saying that the decision to limit the number of commercial regional radio stations was based on research carried out by the Ministry of Communications, which established that the market could not sustain an unlimited number of stations.

The legislative framework governing the Channel 2 radio and TV code is modeled on that of the BBC, "which experts say is the best in the world and which is based on public supervision and quality control," the MK points out.

The whole idea of deregulation, that licenses could be acquired by any prospective broadcaster meeting the criteria and that those criteria could maintain the desired standards, seemed alien to officials and franchisees alike.

Deregulation aside, the franchisees want action taken against the pirate stations which make free use of the airwaves for which they have just paid - and will continue to pay - the authority.

David Ben-Bassat, the director of Radio Rabbat, which serves the Sharon area, says he paid NIS 40,000 to the authority for his license and the same sum to the Ministry of Communications for his FM 100 frequency. All the franchisees paid this, he maintains, and "we'll also pay a yearly fee of NIS 350,000 to NIS 400,000, plus 5 to 7 percent of our profits in royalties."

He calls the pirates "a menace to society," and cites two recent incidents in which their broadcasts interfered with incoming flight communications on a commercial and a private plane. "They broadcast on substandard transmitters," he says, "to save money."



Coming to you from somewhere in Jordan...

GIL Elimelech isn't going offshore, he's just going across the Bay of Aqaba. From September 16, his NRG International Voice of Peace will broadcast from Aqaba as a legally licensed Jordanian radio station, the first joint venture of its kind.

He'll use FM 98.1, the same frequency he used when NRG was a popular pirate radio broadcasting from an Eilat hotel room.

"We broadcast from March to November '94 without any interference from the police," says Elimelech, "and then we stopped because my friends and I wanted to apply for the Eilat regional radio."

Elimelech pulled out of the tender and started up another pirate station called Sky, which lasted for exactly two weeks before the police collared him last February and confiscated about \$250,000 worth of equipment. He was arrested but released on bail "because I told them that I was only the operator and they believed me."

Strictly speaking, it's not an Israeli/Jordanian joint venture because Elimelech holds dual French/Israeli nationality and invested his 49% as a French citizen.

Initially, the station will broadcast in Hebrew, Arabic, English, French and Italian over a 100-km. radius around Aqaba. "But very soon we'll broadcast to all of Jordan," Elimelech promises.

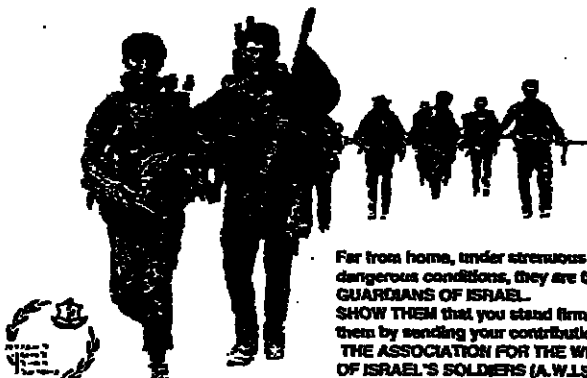
Whatever happens, twiddling the FM dial might be this fall's newest sport.

Here comes regional radio

THREE of the seven regional radio franchises will begin broadcasting on September 1, a date that coincides with the start of the school year. They are Rabbat (FM 100), Radio Haifa (FM 107.5), and Radio Jerusalem (FM 101). Kol Hayam Ha'adom (Red Sea Voice, FM 102) in Eilat will start on the 3rd.

The Dan area's RLH hopes to start on September 12. It was taken to court by an unsuccessful competitor; and then, after RLH won the case, the Authority withheld the license pending changes among the station's senior executives. The other two stations, Galei Darom in Beersheba and Tzafon in Galilee, are tied up in lawsuits brought by the Radio Beersheba and Tefen groups, respectively.

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Ministry gives blessing to non-Orthodox

The Education Ministry is unrolling its carpet for the Conservative and Reform movements, writes Haim Shapiro

THE new school year is a special one for the Masorti (Conservative) and Reform movements, which are to provide programs for the country's nonreligious schools.

"This year we're coming in the front door," says Rabbi Ehud Bandel, spokesman and director of educational activities for the Masorti movement, which will be more directly involved with the schoolchildren than the Reform movement.

Bandel says that, in previous years, some Masorti rabbis and congregations informally participated in school programs. This year, he notes, the involvement will be with the full blessing of the Education Ministry.

The change came about as a result of the recommendations of a committee headed by Prof. Aliza Shenbar of Haifa University. The committee was appointed to study the teaching of Jewish values in the nonreligious school system.

In the report, Shenbar was highly critical of the fact that many of those teaching Judaic subjects in the nonreligious schools were Orthodox or haredi teachers who have little in common with their pupils.

"It is a society which entrusts the education of its sons and daughters by contracting it out to those willing to do it, even if their aims are in sharp opposition to the beliefs and opinions of the members of the society," she said in the report.

It is not just the non-Orthodox religious movements which will receive ministry recognition and funding this year.

"I don't believe that [Education Minister] Amnon Rubinstein wants to open the doors to the Reform and Conservative movements. He simply wants to carry out the recommendations of the Shenbar Committee and show that Judaism is a broad spectrum," says Rabbi Uri Regev, director of the Reform movement's Israel Religious Action Committee.

Regev adds that not only are the Masorti and Reform movements coming in the front door, but also such groups as the Israel Society for Jewish Humanism, Hemdat (the Council for Freedom of Science, Religion and Culture), and Eilat, a study program in which both Orthodox and non-Orthodox Jews study Jewish sources together.

Compared to the Masorti movement, the Reform movement has limited involvement with the Education Ministry this year. The main change is that teachers will be able to take courses at a newly established Reform yeshiva in Jerusalem as part of their regular further education program. By next year, Regev says, the Reform movement will be offering much more.

However, he promises, it will not try to indoctrinate the children or persuade them that the Reform outlook is more valid than that of the Orthodox or the Conservative, or for that matter, that of the secular humanist.

"This is the first time in the history of the educational system that we are being given a chance as one of equals. We never wanted more," Regev says.

Bandel says the Conservative movement submitted a number of suggestions to the Education Ministry, which accepted all of them. By far the most far-reaching is the one that classes should visit Conservative synagogues.

In the past, Bandel notes, the only such visit most nonreligious schoolchildren in Jerusalem made was to attend *shofar* services at a synagogue near Mahaneh Yehuda. Bandel stresses that, although he is happy the children will be going to Conservative synagogues, he hopes they will also visit Reform and Orthodox, Ashkenazi and Sephardi, places of worship, to understand the true variety of Jewish religious experience.

The classes that are to make such visits are in the seventh, eighth and ninth grades. Bandel says that the visits will not take place during services, but that the children will be introduced to the synagogue music and prayers, shown the ark and its curtain, the pulpit, and, of course, the Torah scrolls.

He suggests that one way of doing this might be to unroll the entire scroll, to show the children where such passages as the *Shema*, the Ten Commandments and the Song of the Sea are actually located. He stresses that, in the Masorti synagogues, the boys and girls will be able to do this together. Other programs which the ministry has approved for the Masorti movement are teacher training, holiday celebrations in the schools, a bar-mitzva training program for children with cerebral palsy, and an exchange of letters with Conservative Jewish schools in the Diaspora.

Orthodox and haredi circles have been quick to react. An editorial in *Hatzofeh*, the National Religious daily, argues that it is Orthodox Judaism which is the authentic Judaism and builds bridges of understanding, while the Reform and Conservative movements promote divisiveness and encourage the abandonment of Judaism.

Hamodia, the daily of Agudat Yisrael, reports that the Education Ministry continues its policy of hurting religion; while *Yated Ne'eman*, the daily associated with Rabbi Eliezer Schach, speaks of Rubinstein carrying out a dangerous revisionism.

Next week there is to be a debate in the Knesset about what some MKs call "the falsification of the values of Judaism" by the acceptance of Reform and Conservative Judaism.

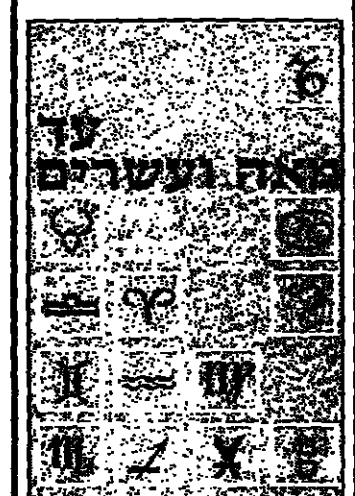
However, Bandel says that the change will make children understand that Judaism is not a matter of all or nothing. He says they will be encouraged to doubt and ask questions and they will learn that Jewish philosophy is not unrelated to the outside world.

"The idea of Jewish culture in confrontation with general culture didn't succeed," Bandel says. "I would like the pupils to see the beauty of Orthodoxy, but I want them to know that there are other [outlooks] too, and they are no less authentic."

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הגדה ליל ראשון

Hardened Times man didn't have the hard facts

EYE ON THE MEDIA

DAVID BAR-ILLAN



An Egyptian view of Israel in the government's English-language weekly 'Al-Ahram.'

world's highest population densities.

According to the 1993 Statistical Abstract of the U.S., population density in Gaza is 4,798 people per square mile. Even if Schmemmann's figure of one million inhabitants is not a gross exaggeration, the density is 6,700 per sq. mile.

In New York, where the paper

Schmemmann works for is published, the density is almost double that: 11,480 per sq. mile.

In Cairo it is 97,106 per sq. mile. In Monaco 40,155, and in Tel Aviv 17,660. Why reputable journalists keep insulting readers' intelligence with this idiotic canard should be a subject for a psychological study. Perhaps a new syndrome, like the Jerusa-

lem syndrome, should be named after Gaza.

But Schmemmann commits an even more incomprehensible error. Discussing Gaza's population explosion, he writes, "It could expand out of control if there is another crisis like the Persian Gulf war, which sent 250,000 Palestinians flooding back into Gaza."

Statements like this, which have absolutely no basis in fact, make one wonder why it is so easy to sell fairy tales to hardened foreign correspondents only when Israel is involved.

The Gulf war did indeed cause a Palestinian refugee problem: after the war, 300,000 Arabs of Palestinian origin were expelled from Kuwait, and tens of thousands from the Arabian peninsula. (Not too surprisingly, no fuss was made about this expulsion, equal in size to the 1948 Arab exodus from Israel.)

Most of these refugees were resettled in Jordan, and about 60,000 entered Judea and Samaria, preferring to live under the notorious "Israeli oppression." None went "flooding back into Gaza." But it is not difficult to foresee learned dissertations by future scholars, citing the New York Times as a primary source, about the post-Gulf War migration which wrought havoc in

Gaza.

That even a journalist as knowledgeable and careful as Schmemmann can come up with such whoppers, and that the Times does not see fit to correct them, may be a sign of the times. With reportage becoming more a branch of the entertainment industry than a pursuit of information, accuracy loses relevance.

AN EGREGIOUS example of the mind-boggling ignorance which prevails among those who would enter the profession was provided by Larry Martel, a journalism instructor at Arizona State University. As reported in last week's *Newsweek*, Martel "quizzed his undergraduates on names every aspiring journalist should know." Some of the responses were particularly amusing: Alzheimer's was defined as an imported beer.

Fidel Castro as a Palestinian leader "whose wife buys lots of shoes." Jesse Jackson was called the leader of the Moral Majority, and Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor was identified as an actress on *LA Law*. But Israeli readers would probably consider one answer particularly piquant. One student described Yasser Arafat as "an Israeli leader." Perhaps he knows something...

Of 'juntas' and 'lackeys'

A VIEW FROM NOV
MOSHE KOHN

WHAT is the connection between the Sanskrit "yoga," meaning "union" (with the Divine), and "junta," which recalls a Latin American military clique that has seized power in a bloody coup?

Both stem from a prehistoric Indo-European root, *yug*, ancestor of the Latin "jugare" and the French "joindre," to join, as well as "yoke," "conjugal," etc.

"Junta," of Spanish origin, stems from "junior," meaning join or congregate. It designates a group of people joined together for a common purpose; a political faction.

The Spaniards' resistance to Napoleon's invasion in 1808 was organized by the *juntas provinciales*, which elected a representative *junta supreme central*.

In 17th-century England, the term was corrupted into "janny" (See Webster's *World History*, 1989; *Brewer's Dictionary of Phrase & Fable*, 14th edition; *Encyclopedia Britannica*).

Because of "junta's" current sinister connotation, some readers object to my labeling our government as "the Rabin/Peres/Beilin junta."

They also don't like my referring to Foreign Ministry officials and diplomats as Shimon Peres's "lackeys." One was also unhappy with my reference to Yasser Arafat as a "murder lord" (my column of August 18).

What led me to say "junta"? To be sure, the Labor Party didn't come to power in 1992 by a bloody coup.

After coming to power, however, it and its coalition partners certainly carried out a coup d'etat, as a woman recently exclaimed to me, explaining:

"Labor was elected on one platform and is carrying out exactly the opposite policy!"

That is not a bloody coup, but a coup it is. Our government reigns on the basis of promises to us that it hasn't kept, combined with apologetics for Arafat's renegeing on most of his Oslo undertakings.

Incidentally, that woman is not God forbid, a settler prancing on other people's hilltops, as the left-wing stereotype has it, but an urbane, city-dwelling professional.

And she isn't a Messiah-intoxicated right-winger, but a pragmatist from a left-wing background who doesn't let Peres-type uni-

versalistic visions blind her to parochial reality.

Another reason why "junta" imposed itself on my mind is the police conduct the government has sanctioned, perhaps even ordered, against anti-unilateral concession demonstrators and against Jews in Judea and Samaria exercising their legal rights.

I mean the all-too-free use of clubs, strangleholds, water cannons and horses' hooves against the latter.

This happens even when they are doing nothing more violent than carrying placards and shouting slogans.

That is why "junta" promptly came to mind as fitting the Rabin/Peres/Beilin/Sarid/Aloni group.

I am sorry - very sorry - their conduct evokes that word.

AS FOR Arafat, president-self-designate of the "State of Palestine," he really no longer is a murder lord.

Some observers have noted that many "Palestinians" now disregard his orders.

Others note what sometimes seems to be a division of labor between him (along with the "Palestinian Authority") and those elements in "the Autonomy" that go by such names as Hamas, Izzadin al-Kassam, etc.

The latter murder, and Arafat - out of one side of his mouth, in English, he condemns the terror acts; out of the other side of his mouth, still in English, he "explains"; and out of his full mouth, in Arabic, he shouts that those terrorist acts are undermining the "Palestinian" cause, towards which Israelis are in cahoots with the terrorists, and that he will allow nothing to stand in the way of a "Palestinian" state with Jerusalem as its capital.

Then the government's spokesmen "explain" this.

Meanwhile, "Palestinian" newspapers critical of Arafat and his junta are shut down from time to time, and his critics are assaulted by armed goons.

Come to think of it, lately we haven't heard about a "secular,

democratic Palestinian state."

"LACKEY" COMES from the French *alaquais*, which stems from the Catalan *alacay*, with the neutral meaning of valet, liveried footman. (*Concise Oxford Dictionary*).

In contemporary usage, it disparagingly means servile follower; in slang, stooge.

I suppose that any foreign ministry official in any land should properly be a virtual "lackey" of his minister and country, or else he ought to resign.

Our key Foreign Ministry personnel here and abroad have excelled in "explaining" things in Peres's manner. They have also faithfully followed his line of maligning dissenters when unable to silence them.

A PUBLIC opinion poll last week showed that only 24 percent of Jewish Israelis still think that Rabin and Peres should have accepted the 1994 Nobel Peace Prize along with Yasser Arafat on December 10, 1994.

In a Gallup poll in mid-October 1994, 44.6 percent had favored their accepting the prize.

In last week's poll, 30 percent thought that Rabin and Peres should have refused the prize outright, as compared to 14.9 percent in the earlier Gallup poll.

Finally, 36 percent thought they should have asked for the presentation of the prize to be postponed till peace truly reigned here (32.9 percent in 1994).

The poll was conducted by Mutagim, an independent survey organization, for the Jerusalem/Ramallah-based IMRA/Independent Media Review and Analysis.

Earlier last month, Hadassah gave Rabin and Peres its annual Henrietta Szold Award, "based on the fact that they got the Nobel Prize," Hadassah President Marlene Post told *Ha'aretz* (August 17).

Menachem Begin, who shared the 1978 Nobel Peace Prize with Egypt's Anwar Sadat, was the only incumbent or former Israeli prime minister not to be so honored.

In 1979, the year they might have honored him, they honored Jacobo Timerman, who went on to become a rabid Israel-basher.

(Thanks to IMRA codirectors Drs. Joseph and Aaron Lerner.)

SRULIK



The word unsaid, the deed undone

SHABBAT SHALOM

SHLOMO RISKIN

If a corpse is found slain in the land which the Lord your God has given you to possess, and it is not known who killed him, then your elders and your judges shall come out, and they shall measure the distance to the cities around the corpse.... (Deuteronomy 21:1-2)

THE need for a system of law is universal. But to determine the moral caliber of a society, it is necessary to examine not only its laws, but also the quality of its judges.

How strictly do we judge our judges? This week's portion, *Shofetim*, opens with the command to appoint judges and officers. The concern of the Torah for a high moral code does not surprise us. The principle is "justice, justice shall you pursue..." (Deut. 16:20) and that means judges shall accept no gifts, and their respect for a bank manager and a bank janitor must be equal.

Over the course of its more than 50 commandments, the portion delineates the pillars of a holy society: judges, high priests, true prophets as opposed to false ones, and even the future kings of Israel, whose limitations as defined by the Torah sharply differ from any concept of the divine right of kings.

No Jewish leader is above the law, and even the number of horses a king may own is biblically circumscribed. But at the end of the portion, the solemnity, significance and status of these leaders, elders and judges are put on hold when a corpse is discovered in a deserted area.

In a sense, an unsolved murder is a test not only of the entire judicial system, but of society itself. As long as the murderer is free, justice is not served and society is threatened. The Torah provides a procedure. After determining the nearest settlement, the elders and judges of that city are commanded to bring a heifer that has never known the yoke of labor to "...a swiftly flowing stream... and they shall break the heifer's neck there in the stream..." (Deut. 21:3-4)

Then the elders wash their hands over the decapitated heifer, repeating the following words: "Our hands have not shed this blood, neither have our eyes seen it." (Deut. 21:3-7)

In response, the priests declare: "Forgive, O Lord, Your people Israel whom You have redeemed, and suffer not innocent blood to remain in the midst of Your people Israel." (Deut. 21:8)

The Torah prescribes that the leaders of the nearest city bear the brunt of responsibility. To be sure, they are not murderers. Nevertheless, they governed in a society where a murder took place. They must declare the innocence of their "hands" and "eyes." The Jerusalem Talmud suggests (*Sotah*, Chapter 9) that they are testifying that no one enters their town without being fed and accompanied on the road as they leave, which is how

Abraham honored everyone who came his way.

In having the elders make this declaration, the Torah is giving us the simplest formula for a compassionate and judicious society: protect potential victim and murderer alike from the ravages of poverty and loneliness.

Moreover, the declaration, "Our hands didn't spill this blood, our eyes didn't see," refers to two distinct categories of sin: by commission, such as slandering our door in the face of a stranger; and by omission, in not responding to that which requires an invitation. The symbol of the first sin is the hand with its power to act, and the symbol of the second is the eye with its ability to avoid the bitter stare of the person without a job or a meal.

This kind of seeing-without-seeing is referred to in a verse near the end of the Grace After Meals: "I have been young and now am old, yet I have not seen a righteous man forsaken nor his seed begging for bread." (Psalms 37:25)

In biblical Hebrew, "I have not seen..." need not be a mere visual fact; it is a moral judgment as well. The speaker is declaring that he never remained inactive when faced with suffering, nor will he look away in the future.

The "broken-heifer" commandment demanding responsibility for what we do and should

have done applies to others besides judges or elected representatives. The Mishnah masterfully leads it to apply to parents by recalling that, when Joseph was sold into slavery, he was separated from his father for 22 years. Jacob's heart becomes numb when he first hears that Joseph is still alive. Only when Jacob sees "...the wagons that Joseph sent to transport him" is his spirit revived, and he truly believes that his beloved child is the grand vizier of Pharaoh's court. Rashi explains that the wagon (*agala* in Hebrew) reminds the father of the *egla arufa* (broken calf) laws they were studying at the time Joseph was sold.

But it's not only a private memory that jolts Jacob. The wagon-heifer (*agala-egla*) similarly speaks to the subtle or not-so-subtle jealousy that led to the sale of one brother by the others - and, indeed, to Joseph's near-death when he was cast into a pit. Was Jacob guilty of acts of commission? Obviously not. But there must have been many instances of omission toward the brothers, who felt they were not getting a fair share of a father's love; there was certainly a blindness to the family dynamics. Jacob must have had the opportunity to praise his other children, yet did not do so.

As leaders and parents, we are judged by what we *don't* do as well as by what we do. Actions, words and sight withheld can leave their mark, and require confession and atonement.

Shabbat Shalom

Don't let children down as the school bell rings in the new year

FUNDS

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ONE of the strangest local customs is the way school books are acquired.

It is not an unusual sight to see children sitting on the pavement selling dog-eared school books from their previous year's studies.

Sometimes these books are being sold for the second or third time.

And sometimes books purchased with hard-earned cash are discontinued after only a year or two.

The Jerusalem Post Toy Fund is besieged by requests at this time of the year to help provide school books and supplies for hard-pressed families.

A family with three or four youngsters in school has to find hundreds of shekels just so their children can participate in class.

Maybe the Ministry of Education will place this problem high on its agenda and finally decide that the schools should purchase the textbooks, so families only

have to buy school supplies such as notebooks, pencils, and pens.

But until that day comes we can, with your help, provide basic school needs for those children whose parents lack the necessary funds.

I'm making this special appeal to our readers to send in contributions immediately, so that we can respond to all the requests we are now receiving.

The school year starts this week. Don't let the children down. Send your checks today to: The Jerusalem Post Funds, POB 81, 91000 Jerusalem.

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\$20 Mr. and Mrs. Hana Gavriel, Fair Lawn, NJ. \$18 On the yahrzeit of my mother, Rose Sosenshine (27). In memory of Addi Waserstein - Neil and Louise Leibman, Merion Station, PA.

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Theory at its best

CHESS

NICK KOPALOFF

SOME say that chess skill is innate, others maintain that it can be improved by learning, especially opening theory.

In his book *Chess for Tigers*, Simon Webb seems to adopt the latter approach. He presents a number of methods to improve one's game, many based on "swindling the opponent." His tactics are not as underhand as this sounds - Webb's concern is to show how to complicate a position and confuse an opponent by deliberately eschewing the best move.

Bill Hartston's *How to Cheat at Chess* reveals a formula by which you can calculate whether or not it is worthwhile to embark on a dubious combination. Not that this has made any impression on my performance.

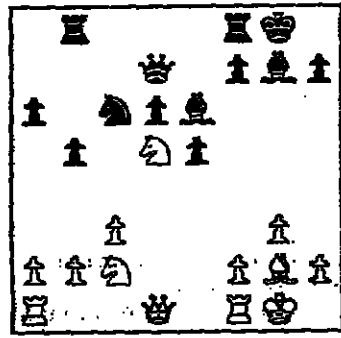
At a leading London bookshop, I asked for Hartston's uncensored sequel, *Soft Pawn*, and was discreetly pointed toward the exit.

Perhaps the most influential book on skill and the thought process has been Alexander Kotov's *Think Like a Grandmaster*, in which the writer explains how to train the mind to analyze variations, and to build trees of analysis.

World champion Gary Kasparov was certainly thinking like a grand master when he comfortably won the prestigious Novgorod tournament earlier in the year. Britain's Nigel Short also returned to his best form and took third place.

Short, Nigel - Kramnik, Vladimir Novgorod 1995

Sicilian Sveshnikov
1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 exd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 e5 6.Nbd5 d6 7.Bg5 a6 8.Na3 b5 9.Bxf6 gxf6 10.Nd5 Bg7 11.c3 f5 12.exf5 Bxf5 13.Nc2 Be6 14.g3 0-0 15.Bg2 Rb8 16.0-0 Qd7



17.a4: Short thought for half an hour on this move in an effort to

find a refutation for Kramnik's last move which was a deviation from the standard 16...a5. This is then often followed by 17.Qh3 Qd7 18.Rad1.

17...b4 18.Ncxb4 Nxb4 19.cxb4 Bxd5 20.Bxd5 Rxb4 21.b3 a5 22.Qe2 e4 23.Rd1 Qe7 24.Be4 Kh8 25.Rd5 f5 26.Rfd1? 26.f4 would have quashed any resistance and would have led to Black's demise after 26...Qc7 27.Rfd1 Rf6 28.Qh5

26...Be5 27.Rxa5 Rb7 28.Rad5 Qf6 29.f4 exf3 30.Qxf3 Rg7 31.Kh1 Qh6 32.Rg1 Rg6? Better was 32...Rg5

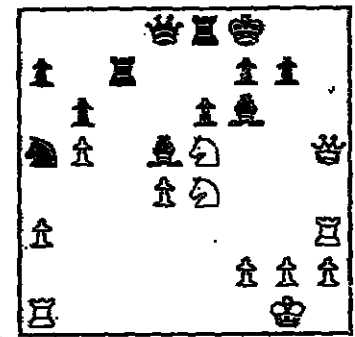
33.Rd3 Rg5 34.a5 Rh5 35.Qf2 f4 36.g4 Rh3 37.Rf3 Rxf3 38.Qd3 Bd4 39.Rd1 Be3 40.a6 Qf6 41.Qd5 f3 42.Qxd6 Qg7 43.Bd5: Short admitted after the game that he had intended to play 43.Qe6. He noticed just in time that this would have brought about his defeat after 43...Qb2! 44.Bf1 Bf4

43...Ba7 44.Qb4 f2 45.Bg2 Re6 46.Rf1 Qe5 47.Bc6: preventing Bb8

47...Re7 48.Qd2 Kg7 49.b4 Rf7 50.b5 Bb6 51.Qd5 Qf4 52.Qe4 Qd6 53.Bd5 Re7? 54.Qf5 Be7? 55.Qg5+ 1-0

THE ANNUAL Kfar Sava tournament was won by Ilan Manor with 4.5 points from his five games. The Israeli international master finished narrowly ahead of Ronen Lev, Leonid Yudasin and Alex Caspi (Serbian). Boris Kantzler and Boris Mariasin. Danny Shavlev took the honors in the secondary tournament.

In this 1987 Ivanov - Grigoriev game, the White queen dances daintily around the board crippling the Black pieces and forcing a pretty mate. White to play and win.



Solution: 1.Rh4+ Kxb4; If 1...gxh4 then 2.Qg6+ mate. 2.Qh7+ Qh5; Obviously not 2...Kg4 3.Qh3+ mate 3.Qd7+ Rf5 4.Qd1 Rf3 5.Qd3+ mate 1-0



The bulbul seems to be born with that innate cheekiness of its parents.

Time of the baby birds

NATURE

D'VORA BEN SHAUL

WHILE autumn and spring mark the great bird migrations and spring and early summer are busy with nesting, it's late summer that is truly the time of the baby birds. Wherever you look - in garden, hedge, savannah or woods - they're hard to miss.

In the garden, there are the flocks of goldfinches that hatched a couple of months ago and are busily ravishing the remaining seed plants. A number of juvenile blackbirds are down below in the hedge dividing the garden from the olive grove, scuffling and scratching about and making about 10 times the noise any creature of their size should reasonably make. They are feeding on grubs and insects, seeds and even crumbs if they find them.

The baby sunbirds are swarming around the hibiscus, the big bignonia bush and anywhere else where bright color advertises the possibility of a sip of nectar. The hoy, a houseplant on the balcony, usually puts out its waxy, honey-sweet blossoms in the

spring, but now and then it shows an autumnal inflorescence as it has this year. The baby sunbirds have found it and are feasting on the nectar that literally drips from the blossoms. This, however, doesn't stop them from exploring every bright colored object in the garden, including the multicolored clothes pegs on the laundry line.

Then there are the wheatears and the tits and a variety of other juvenile songbirds that live up to the scenery. But one must not, in all this variety, forget the young bulbul, who seem to be born with that innate cheekiness of their resident parents. They come right onto the balcony to inspect the bowl of fruit on the coffee table, even to pinch the grapes. And the sparrows - such an unremarkable little passerine bird, but only when you haven't taken the time to look at them

properly. They are so industrious, and so adventurous.

Out back there's our neighbor's stable and goat barn. The sparrows flock around it as do the young pigeons and doves, looking as if their legs were much too short, because they still retain something of their fat little squab-like bodies.

In the orchard there's a complete family of Syrian woodpeckers, the parents very much in evidence as they instruct their young in the art of foraging beneath the bark for grubs or searching the ground under the trees for insects and caterpillars and even the scattered windfall olives in the hedge.

There are other birds now and then, young swallows and martins and at night the owls that habituate the area near the stable where the haystack attracts mice. There are enough different species, too, to keep any bird-watcher busy throughout the season while the young birds learn the things they need to know before the winter comes.

Children who play their cards right

BRIDGE

MATTHEW GRANOVERTER

East dealer
East-West vulnerable

North
♠ 86
♥ AK82
♦ J1064
♣ J76

West
♠ AQ75432
♥ 743
♦ -
♣ K42

East
♠ J109
♥ J9
♦ 852
♣ AQ1095

South
♠ K
♥ Q1065
♦ AKQ73
♣ 83

Table 1:
West Sutherland
North North
2♣ double
4♣ 5♣
5♣ pass

Table 2:
Albano
3♣ double
(all pass)

Table 3:
Levy
3♣ double
(all pass)

Table 4:
Versace
3♣ double
(all pass)

Table 5:
Blond
3♣ double
(all pass)

Table 6:
Blond
3♣ double
(all pass)

Table 7:
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(all pass)

Table 8:
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Table 9:
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Table 10:
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Table 11:
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Table 39:
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(all pass)

Table 40:
Blond
3♣ double
(all pass)

Get ready for fall gardening

GARDENING

INEZ KLIMIST

WITH cooler weather just around the corner, we need to think about preparations for fall.

Cut down your iris leaves, if you have not done it already. The leaves have surely begun to look wilted and unkempt, and the plants need the space for new growth next spring. Cut the fans straight across, leaving 10 to 12 cm. of the old leaves.

By this time of year, busy Lilies (*impatiens*) will have grown leggy and thin. Cut them back to about 10 cm. or to where the lowest branching occurs. The remaining plant will grow until the really cold weather begins, and will set out more blooms in a nice bushy form. Put the cuttings into a glass of water for a couple of weeks. They will put out healthy new roots in no time.

Put the cuttings when the roots are 3 or 4 cm. long. They can go on a sunny windowsill for the winter or out into the garden. In any case, you will have increased your plants at no extra cost.

When taking cuttings of any plant to root in water, handle the roots as little as possible. The fine new roots growing in water have encountered no resistance to their growth. When you plant them, they encounter the resis-

tance of growing into the soil. Light soil, packed very gently around these tender roots, will help them make the transition more easily. A spray of liquid fertilizer will also lessen the shock.

Both annuals and perennials should be deadheaded for a longer-blooming garden. Biologically speaking, the function of a plant is to produce seeds to create the next generation. If a plant is not permitted to produce seeds, it will try to bloom again, in an attempt to produce them.

By cutting flowers that are beginning to wilt, we divert the plant's energy from producing seed toward producing more flowers or better foliage. Some plants set out unattractive seed heads or weigh down the branches, another reason to deadhead.

Petunias, sunflowers, marigolds, yarrow and phlox should be snipped off just below the flower head. This encourages branching for more flowers and keeps the plant compact. Avoid leaving unsightly stubs poking

out of the plant. Cut close to the spent bloom without damaging the new buds.

Removing individual spent flowers one by one is the most common way to deadhead, but some flowers have a spray of flowers, or a rosette, instead of a single bloom (lavender, geranium). In this case, use your snipper or hedge cutter to reshape the entire plant, as well as remove old flower heads. It's faster and improves the shape of the plants.

Don't be afraid to improve the appearance of your fall garden by pruning your leggy bushes and plants back into shape.

SOME plants (digitalis, love-in-a-mist, annual delphinium) should not be deadheaded until they have a chance to reseed. Some of our plants produce beautiful seed heads. If you want some for a winter bouquet, let them dry thoroughly on the plant before you cut them (sedum, rudbeckia, some of the ornamental grasses).

There are no hard and fast rules for deadheading plants. As you work in your garden, you will discover which method suits your needs best and gives the look you want.

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OF LEGENDARY STYLE



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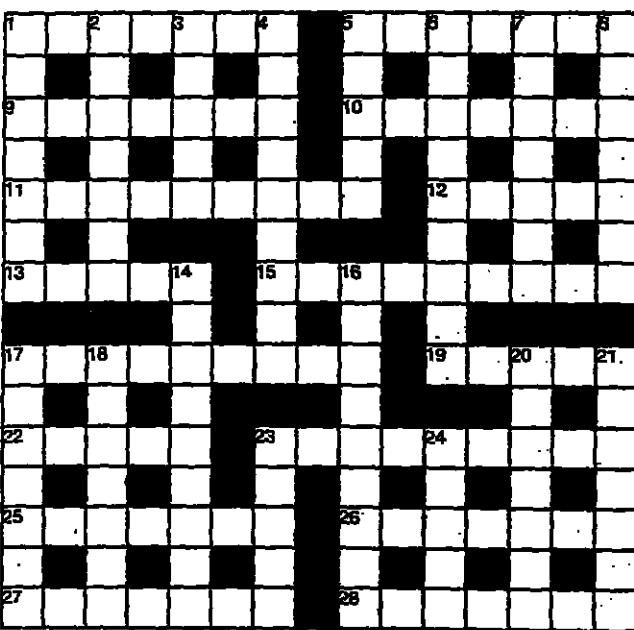
CRYPTIC CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- Speech written on the back of an envelope (7)
- Gold was found in the river when in flood (7)
- A loud tale, but very pleasant (7)
- He's nice, but confused, this foreigner (7)
- Obsolete, late birds (4,5)
- Rinse out the traces (5)
- Relative was initially educated in French city (5)
- Price increases in apartment no one returned to (9)
- Blepper brought the head back in to see ineffective member of the team (9)
- Chair for journalist who was put in hospital (5)
- Beautiful young woman garbled quiet hymn (5)

DOWN

- Where Australians are father bedded? (4,5)
- Sticks around in teeth (7)
- Horsemaster surrounded a group of marauders (7)
- Pardon for Amy when she comes round home (7)
- This lady may be about north of Nassau (7)
- Give up the sailor who goes on and on (7)
- Grow smaller when fed up and behind time (7)
- Became down and out (5)
- Carol sits around in the boat, drawing (9)
- Courses of action which sound like a duty (5)
- Forces through using two means of transport (9)



7 Early start gives value to one of those who retired early perhaps (7)

8 Senator was turned out for betraying the country (7)

14 The plane's damaged some large animals (9)

16 Boiler is functional—but putting out sparks (9)

17 Produce a canape as a universal remedy (7)

18 Number in some difficulty for Mairgret's creator (7)

20 Great offence caused by old dagger (7)

21 She waited for Portia (7)

23 Lady is shy but very attractive (5)

24 These might be the ones to put in the kitchen (5)

SOLUTIONS

ACROSS: 1 Pelase, 3 Force, 8 Photo, 9 Garman, 10 Lifestyle, 12 Mib, 13 Curate, 14 Swaths, 17 Spa, 18 Surrender, 20 Addenda, 21 Thaw, 23 Knave, 24 Hoedown.

DOWN: 1 Pupil, 2 Leo, 3 Spence, 4 Epouya, 5 Force, 6 Rummaged, 7 Enoble, 11 Forwarded, 13 Comack, 15 Wreaths, 16 Branch, 18 Stage, 19 Rowan, 22 Roe.

Quick Solution

ACROSS: 1 Pelase, 3 Force, 8 Photo, 9 Garman, 10 Lifestyle, 12 Mib, 13 Curate, 14 Swaths, 17 Spa, 18 Surrender, 20 Addenda, 21 Thaw, 23 Knave, 24 Hoedown.

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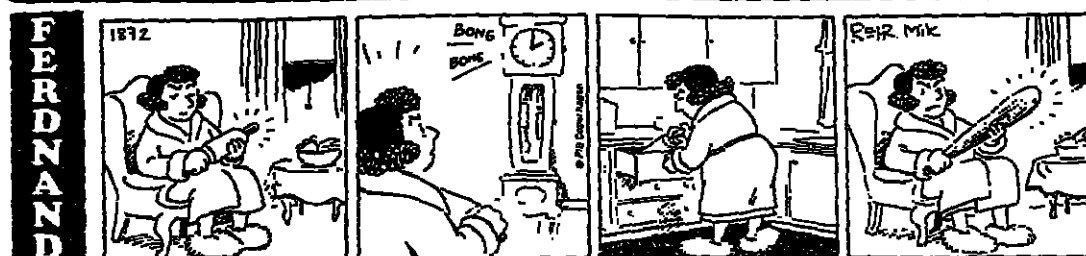
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ERDAND

Hot on the trail of the Emancipator

HILLEL KUTTLER
WASHINGTON

THE Abraham Lincoln known to most of the world is the 1860s icon: Lincoln the emancipator and healer, perched royally on his marble throne within a stately memorial near the capital's other great edifices.

Or: Lincoln the martyr, shot at Ford's Theater, just days after ending the Civil War, and carried across the street to a tailor's home to die.

While those three Washington sites remain must-sees for admirers of the 16th president, they neglect one thing: the first 52 years of Lincoln's life.

With a car, a week and some get-to-ness, try setting off from Washington to explore Lincoln's roots in Kentucky.

An eight-hour drive (a liberal interpretation of the highway speed limit helps) breezing through the Shenandoah Valley and the Blue Ridge and Appalachian Mountains will bring you to downtown Lexington, Kentucky.

A two-story brick house on West Main St., built in 1803, is where Mary Todd lived from age 14 to 21, right before she moved to Springfield, Illinois, where she met and married Lincoln. The Mary Todd Lincoln House is one of only two museums in the US devoted to a First Lady (the other is Eleanor Roosevelt's childhood home in New York).

When Mary's father Robert Todd died in 1849, a family feud caused most of the family's possessions to be auctioned off. Fortunately, a detailed inventory was kept, so when the site was restored in 1977, it could be displayed as it appeared during Mary's years there.

Only three furnishings remain from the Todd years: two desks in the upstairs bedrooms and a card table in the parlor where Lincoln played a few hands when the couple once visited. (They were donated by Robert Todd Lincoln Beckwith, the president's great-grandson, whose death in 1985 brought an end to Lincoln's line.)

The main floor also features several items from Mary's White House years: her Meissen china perfume containers, two candleholders, a silver tea server with the initials "M.L." purchased from Tiffany's in New York, and a painting of Mary done while she was the First Lady.

Alas, a sad Lincoln legacy is recalled in another silver heirloom: a mug that a Union soldier gave Tad Lincoln to comfort him after his brother Willie died in 1862. Three of the Lincolns' four sons, including Tad himself, predeceased their parents.

A short walk from the Todd house is Lexington Cemetery. Amid the gorgeously landscaped grounds of lakes and weeping willows rest several generations of Todds, including Mary's father Robert and three of her brothers who fought for the Confederacy.

From Lexington, take Route 68 west, a scenic two-lane road snaking through lush horse-breeding country. It leads to the town of Harrodsburg, in the middle of which lies a state park with a reconstructed fort representing late-18th century frontier life.

Just outside the fort is the Lincoln Marriage Temple, which (unlike the fort) can be visited for free. It was there, in a log cabin now housed within the stone building, that Rev. Jesse Head



The formal parlor of Lincoln's home gives an idea about how the Lincolns lived.

wed Thomas Lincoln and Nancy Hanks on June 12, 1806, three years before the future president's birth.

While the cabin itself cannot be entered, you can observe its simplicity: constructed just of wood and a sealant, with facing windows, a small entrance and a hearth within. Once located in Beechland in nearby Washington County, it was moved to the park in 1931.

Continue west on Route 150 to Springfield, then north on a local road to the Lincoln Homestead State Park. As you go through the town, the county courthouse is on your right. A historical marker boasts that the building contains Thomas and Nancy's marriage certificate.

For a dose of the state's involvement in the Civil War — this is a Lincoln tour after all! — take a short detour to the Perryville Battlefield. In the state's bloodiest conflict, the Confederates were forced to withdraw, ensuring federal control of Kentucky. The battlefield is nestled up a winding country road and, like many now-pastoral battlefields, hardly seems the place where 7,500 casualties occurred.

A \$1 fee at the state park allows you to tour its two Lincoln structures: the childhood homes of Thomas Lincoln and Nancy Hanks.

Interestingly, the former is a replica built on the precise spot it had once stood, while the latter is the original cabin but was moved to its present site from just down the road.

After Thomas's father, Abraham Lincoln, was killed by Indians, his mother Bersheba and her five children settled in a house on that site. There, Thomas learned carpentry. He built the cupboard that stands in the corner, and the bed, too. That is Thomas's axe hung on the far wall.

Twenty yards away stands the Berry House, where Nancy lived with her aunt and uncle. It is said that at the fireplace, Thomas proposed to Nancy.

Traipsing upstairs, you'll find young Nancy's bed, and on the wall above, a letter written 10 years ago attesting to the bed's authenticity from a relative who inherited it.

Get back on Route 150 west and take 31E due south. It's a delightfully serene road and most likely you'll see no other cars. About 11 km. north of Hodgenville, where a 20th-century clapboard house now stands, is a marker stating that Abraham and his sister Sarah began their formal education nearby in "a primitive log cabin."

A sign of the times: the biblical names of Americans then, as in the Lincolns' school teachers, Zechariah Riney and Caleb Hazel.

The road continues on to Knob Creek. Lincoln lived there from age two through seven. He later said his "earliest recollection" was of his father's 228-acre farm. There's not much to see today.

The tourist site is privately run and there are no maps for even a self-guided tour, no way to locate the namesake creek, or the spot where Thomas Lincoln built the family home. For a fee, you can enter the cabin of Lincoln's boyhood friend, Austin Gollaher, who saved him from drowning in the creek.

Sixteen kilometers away, the Lincoln Birthplace National Historic Site in Hodgenville seems more a tribute to the president that Lincoln became than the boy he was. A huge white granite temple houses a log cabin once reported to be the structure where Lincoln was born in 1809, but even the site's brochures admit it is not. You reach the building by climbing 56 steps, symbolizing

I then broke up the Lincoln theme to visit with a friend in Indianapolis, Indiana (a three-hour drive north), but we resumed the tour with a ride west to Springfield, Illinois. There we explored the life of the adult Lincoln, in the town where he and Mary lived during the 17 years before he was elected president in 1860.

Plan to spend a whole day in Springfield. Visit the only home he ever owned, the law office where he practiced, the bank displaying Lincoln's account ledger, and the train depot where the president-elect bade a fond farewell to the townsfolk before departing for Washington.

A recommendation: seek out as much knowledge as you can from the visitors' center or from books before visiting Lincoln's home. The high volume of tourists means that you are rushed through the house in less than 15 minutes, learning and seeing little of the Lincolns' life there. It is a mark of shame on the National Park Service.

I also suggest visiting New Salem, 32 km. away. It is a reconstructed village that includes the stores where Lincoln worked as a young man. Its array of farm animals should also be a favorite of children.

And just outside New Salem, in Petersburg, is the grave of Ann Rutledge, known to be Lincoln's first true love, who was featured posthumously in the 1930s film *Abe Lincoln in Illinois* that starred Raymond Massey.

Lincoln never returned home alive, but a soaring memorial above his tomb at Springfield's Oak Ridge Cemetery testifies to America's esteem for the farm boy turned leader.

Further into the Lincoln roots

THOSE more ambitious than the author might consider visiting southern Indiana, where Thomas Lincoln moved the family after leaving Kentucky, and where Nancy Hanks, who died in Lincoln's youth, is buried. There are also many other sites throughout central Illinois that cover Lincoln's life between the Kentucky and Springfield years.

Prior to setting out, get a copy of Don Davenport's book (*Prairie Oak Press*; Madison, Wisconsin) *In Lincoln's Footsteps: A Historical Guide to the Lincoln Sites in Illinois, Indiana and Kentucky*.

In addition, an excellent, free brochure is produced by the three states' tourism boards, called "Lincoln Heritage Trail." It describes most of the sites and has a map that plots the Lincolns' path west and north. The brochure may be ordered by calling (502) 564-4930 (800-225-TRIP toll-free within the US), or writing to: Department of Travel, 500 Mero St., Frankfort, Kentucky 40601.

Both the book and brochure are also available at most of the Lincoln sites. Of course, Carl Sandburg's epic biography of Lincoln will be your best written guide.

Hillel Kuttler



Visitors of all ages can take turns leading and riding the exceptionally tolerant donkeys at Kfar Kedem.

Restored city mixes Crusaders, computers

SEE IT HERE

HAIM SHAPIRO

SOMEONE, somewhere in the upper echelons of power and influence must have decided that Tzipori should be a class act. And indeed it is.

This ancient Galilee city, which flourished during the Roman period, is slowly being excavated and restored. From the little that may now be seen, it appears that, when the work is finished, Tzipori could well be one of the major attractions not only in this country, but in the whole region.

Everything has been done for the ease and enlightenment of the visitor. The small museum, located in the ruins of a Crusader fortress, offers a lively and informative video presentation. Even better, from the point of view of anyone with children, is the availability of several computer terminals with interactive programs, including a game in which you "make" a mosaic on the computer screen.

The villa, whose mosaics include the so-called Mona Lisa of Galilee, has full explanations of all the mosaics. Incidentally, both the museum and the villa are air conditioned, which is no small matter on a hot summer's day.

The work is continuing. The agora, or marketplace, with its mosaics of various food products, is being restored, as is the mosaic of the Nilometer, showing a large number of plants and animals.

This week the city's restored water cisterns were officially opened. The cisterns, hewn out of rock, are 15 meters deep and 260 meters long. They form part of a continuous system which brought water from over 13 kilometers away, from a spring near Nazareth. One can still see the plaster that covered the walls, the traps in which refuse settled, and the cut-off points at which the

water flow could be stopped to facilitate the repair of the system.

Even today, before restoration has been completed, a visit to Tzipori can easily take a full day if one avails oneself of some of the facilities in the area.

Kfar Kedem, an enterprise of Moshav Hoshaya, which is just down the road from the ancient site, has a full stable of donkeys for tours. Children and adults can take turns leading and riding the donkeys, which appear to be exceptionally tolerant of their riders. The moshav even issues the rider with an "international license for the donkey driver."

For large groups, there is also the opportunity to grind wheat, knead dough and bake bread, or to press olives to make olive oil, using utensils from the talmudic period. And small family groups can enjoy a snack or a feast in "Abraham's Tent."

Those seeking greater excitement may prefer to try an all-terrain vehicle (ATV or *tratoron*) at Hava Naglila, a company which is also located nearby. Anyone with a driver's license can take one of these vehicles either alone or with a guide, to explore the nearby countryside.

Tzipori (06-568272) is located on the road between Haifa and Nazareth. It is open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is NIS 13 for adults, NIS 6 for children. The Kfar Kedem site (tel. 06-565511) is open daily except Shabbat. Donkey rides for small groups cost NIS 35 an hour. Hava Naglila (06-569742) is open daily with the price for individual ATVs set at NIS 55 for a half-hour and NIS 90 for an hour. All the sites offer lower prices for groups, and there is also a combined price for donkey and ATV. It is always better to call and make reservations in advance.

Succot, Sardinian or Spanish style

AMIEL Tours is offering a seven-night Succot vacation package in Sardinia for \$903, including round-trip flight and half board. One of the optional side-trips is a round-trip flight to Rome for \$99. A 15-day Succot tour of Spain and Portugal is being offered by Diesenhaus for \$1,702.

KIBBUTZ MALKIYA in Upper Galilee is offering a special nightly price of NIS 169 per couple on weekends and NIS 159 midweek. The price is valid after Succot through February, except on holidays.

THE KIBBUTZ Ha'on vacation village is offering a midweek special nightly price of NIS 170 per couple, including breakfast, and NIS 42 for each additional person. The special offer is not valid for holidays.

THE PARADISE Hotel chain is offering a special price during specified dates in September of NIS 180 per couple, with a 50 percent reduction for children in their parents' room.

YOSSI TOURS is offering bargain rates on packages to Antalya for the entire month of September. The price of a three-night package, including flight and half board, starts at \$225, while that of a seven-night package starts at \$385.

TRAVEL TIPS
HAIM SHAPIRO

BALI TOURS is offering a seven-night package to Morocco with a choice of seven nights in Casablanca or four nights in Casablanca and three in Marrakesh for \$989. The package includes room and breakfast and flights on EL AL and Air Maroc via Marseilles.

THE MERIDIEN chain is offering a luxury cruise on the Nile for \$640 for four nights, including full board.

The cruises run from the beginning of October until the end of April, with slightly higher charges during Christmas and Easter.

The same package is available for seven nights, together with a stay in Cairo and air tour to Luxor and Aswan, for \$876. The prices do not include transport to Cairo.

RCI, the company which deals with exchanges for time-sharing units, is to charter a special flight to the Canary Islands.

According to the company it is likely that it will charter flights to other destinations as well.

EL AL has initiated a new sleeping service in first- and business-class on long-haul flights.

The first-class passengers are to receive a sheet and a quilt, while the business-class passengers receive a big pillow and a blanket.

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Round trip: \$260 + tax
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THE TRIP OF THE YEAR EILAT AND THE NEGEV

Last year's trip was a sell-out. So get in quick now, for a really great time at a bargain price. Shorashim and The Jerusalem Post Travel Club's stimulating and informative English speaking off-the-beaten-track 4 day tour of the Negev and Eilat. We'll pick you up in Tel Aviv or Jerusalem, and on the way south visit the Air Force Museum at Hatzorim and Macthes Ramon (the Ramon Crater). We'll tour the Shoret Canyon, cruise the coral reefs in a glass-bottomed boat, and view Aqaba and Taba, take a jeep tour, yes, a jeep tour of Mt. Yo'ash, Ein Netafim, Nahal Shlomo, Nahal Yehoshafat, Nahal Rehav'am and have coffee with the Beduin. There'll be two evening lectures and a night tour of Eilat. We'll be staying at the delightful PARADISE HOTELS in Eilat and our tour guide will be David Solomon.

The Dates: Mon., October 23 - Thur., October 26
4 days, 3 nights.

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Thursday October 19 UNDERGROUND JERUSALEM

Limited to 30 persons, we'll visit the City of David, the Warren Shaft, Minharot Ha'Kotel (the underground western wall), the 1st Temple model, the Herodian Quarter etc.

Tour Guide: Eli Rockowitz NIS 125

Thursday Sept. 21 A NIGHT OF FORGIVENESS

This is an all night tour when we'll discover the culture of the hasidim in the "days of awe" before Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur. We'll visit Mea Shearim and the Bukhara neighborhood. At 4 a.m. we'll visit the Museum of Synagogues for prayers etc. Limited to 35 persons. Light refreshments.

Tour guide: Avraham Zvi Schwartz

Lecturer: Kimi Kaplan NIS 125

Tuesday October 24 THE VALLEY OF THE HOLY CROSS MONASTERY

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Tour guide: Geographer Joseph Glass NIS 140

Thursday Sept. 21 SUNSET AND EVENING IN JERUSALEM

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תלמידי יאסר

Situation wanted: 3 MKs looking for a new home

THE WEEK THAT WAS
MICHAEL YUDELMAN

As the Shas-run sun sinks on a fading summer, MKs without a permanent roof over their heads are scurrying about in search of a warm political home, like squirrels before a cruel winter.

Leading the no-hopers seeking that acorn-filled nest are the squabbling trio of Y'ud – the lost children from the tribe of Rafal. They may not be on speaking terms, but they can agree on one thing – they don't have an acorn's chance of making it to the next Knesset as a list. However, like faded movie stars, they are oblivious to the general consensus that their brief career was a flash in the pan.

Energy Minister Gonen Segev sided up to Likud rebel David Levy and his brother Maxim and wondered aloud about vacancies on Levy's new list. "When asked to comment," as journalists say, Levy's people could only howl with contemptuous mirth.

Maxim, who is also mayor of Lod, had the grace to treat the question more seriously. The meeting with the respected minister focused only on the question of air-conditioning for Lod schools. Cool!

MK Alex Goldfarb (deputy housing minister, lest anyone has forgotten, or cares) gasps in awe that Labor offered him a chance to run in southern district primaries. Of course, in this democratic country anyone can run in regional primaries. Winning is the



Sharon shifts weight from the waistline to the frontline at hunger strike. (Brian Heller)

thing, Alex, as any old nag in a horse race can tell you.

That leaves pouting Esther Salmowitz – she who objects to being called desirable. Well, desirable would be a desirable asset for one trying to elbow her way onto a Likud list which is already more crowded than an American food-fest at Hypercol.

WEIGHTWATCHERS
Likud MK Ariel Sharon may have lost weight politically but he has made up for it physically.

In an attempt to shift some avoirdupois from the waistline to the front line, he came up with the bright idea of a public hunger strike outside the Prime Minister's Office.

Those who thought it was a

joke may have missed the paunchline as Sharon, Moledeet heavyweight Rehavam Ze'evi, National Religious Party heavies Shaul Yahalom and Yitzhak Levy, and some opposition members sold politics as a low-cal diet.

Somewhat inconspicuous – for a man of his stature – during recent turbulent events, Sharon may have figured the seven-day starve-in would be a good way to regain the limelight and relieve his bathroom scales at the same time.

However, whether gnawing doubt or hunger were to blame, things kept going wrong. Despite Sharon's 30 kg advantage, it was Ze'evi who stole the media headline cookies with his fanatical sound bites. Puffing heavily behind him, Sharon was outmatched.

Then there were the other Likud notables. Or rather – there weren't. Most of them obviously had pressing dinner dates which prevented them from lending weight to Sharon's protest.

"Where are they?" wondered a hungry and irritated Sharon, looking over the heads of curious and disgustingly thin opposition party visitors, settlers and haredim.

Likud leader Benjamin Netanyahu, who could do with a little dieting himself, popped in for a brief handshake with Sharon on the first day.

He returned again for a meeting of right-wing party leaders in the strikers' tent. How commendable of him, sneered Sharon, "choosing to hold the meeting here, on the sixth day of our hunger strike."



Goldfarb: Surprised that Labor's letting him run in southern primaries. (Issac Harari)

Ooops! Bibi should have brought some Seltzer to neutralize all that acid.

RAMON THE FEMINIST
Once upon a time there was a health minister called Haim Ramon, who decided to save the people of Israel from their terrible plight. Only 98 percent of them had health insurance, but they would get a health insurance law, whether they wanted one or not.

Hillary Clinton proclaimed from afar that the Israeli health system could be just right for the US of A.

Haim "I too am a feminist" Ramon promptly gathered the media and announced that the health system was just an awful

shambles, but that he would unveil a perfect new system and the people would get even more health for the same price.

Under this magical new system, no one – not women, not pensioners, not anybody – would suffer discrimination ever again.

An so a new era began. More taxes were wrung from the taxpayers, especially working women. Health services decreased and the price of medicines went up.

And the people of Israel did groan under the burden of the new health law, and cried out: "How did we sin to have this new plague fall upon us and haven't we suffered enough already, and we can't even afford insurance for our sufferings."

At about that time, the Histadrut got a new chairman called Ramon, whom the people eyed suspiciously, saying, "Haven't we seen him somewhere before?" But he declared he would deliver his people from their intolerable woes.

Haim "I too am a feminist" Ramon promptly gathered the media and announced that he would have a word with his finance minister buddy, Avraham Shohat, to give married working women a (very) partial tax compensation, in the form of one credit point. And so it was.

A short time later, the finance minister saw a great hole in his budget, NIS 240, million wide, and cast around to see how he could fill it.

From the huge paychecks of the professional military that make up half the security budget? Yes, prime minister, of course not.



Haim "I am a feminist" Ramon didn't speak up for the working woman. (Uzi Keren)

Maybe those tax benefits on study funds we just gave self-employed businessmen? But out, buster.

Ah – there are zillions in those National Insurance fee exemptions we gave employers and industrial tycoons. O'v vey, no way, Jose!

Just then a poor working woman's lamb bleated. Why, of course. There's that miserable credit point we tossed recently to working women. Why didn't I think of it before?

The women raised a hue and cry.

So? Are they tycoons? Generals? Industrialists? Just a bunch of women complaining as usual. And if they have to work, they

can't be worth much, now can they?

Haim "I too am a feminist" Ramon was silent. Some said he was on vacation in Paris. But others said he would soon gather the media to announce he has this great idea to save the Labor Party...

THE OWL AND THE PUSSYCAT

Two weeks ago the fearless right braved ocean waves to visit Arutz 7.

This week, the fearless left did the owl and the pussycat thing to visit the pea-green boat of Greenpeace.

The romantic duo of Environment Minister Yossi Sarid and Tel Aviv Mayor Ronni Milo mayhap noticed the pea-green sea they were sailing on?

Well not until it was brought to their attention. Their eyes were fixed on the far horizon of French nuclear tests in the South Pacific and their voyage was to express solidarity with the brave Rainbow Warriors.

Well thanks, said the campaigning Greens, but what about all that sludge your boat is bobbing out? There's the little local matter of Haifa Bay and the poisonous ooze from Haifa Chemicals. Don't worry your pretty green heads about it, gushed Sarid. Don't you know how strict Israel's standards are?

How unfortunate that the Health Ministry chose this most inopportune moment to issue a warning that entering Tel Aviv sea water could be hazardous to public health because of massive sewage dumping.

Pacific, shmacific!

Wonder fan club runs the political, social gamut

GRAPEVINE

GREER FAY CASHMAN

JERUSALEM Mayor Ehud Olmert and Dr. Ahmed Tibi, special adviser to PLO chairman Yasser Arafat, can hardly be accused of seeing things the same way. But one thing they definitely agree on is that singer Stevie Wonder is the greatest. Other Stevie Wonder fans include South African ambassador Malcolm Ferguson, who hosted a reception for the singer in the garden of his Ramat Gan home; radio pop show hostess Shosh Atari, and chart-topping singer Rita.

Wonder, who is known to be a fresh-air freak, had his room at the Tel Aviv Hilton specially cleaned several times a day. At the request of members of his entourage, Hilton staff removed tables and chairs from Wonder's suite to ensure that he would not hurt himself by inadvertently bumping into furniture in unfamiliar terrain. It was the first time that the VIP service on the luxurious 16th floor of the hotel consisted of taking out extras instead of bringing them in. Wonder, who is also a musical ambassador for peace, promised to return to the region real soon.

NOT ONLY did King Hussein send a royal-crested plane to Ben-Gurion Airport to transport Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, Economics Minister Yossi Beilin, Israel's ambassador to Jordan Shimon Shamir and Peres's bureau chief Avi Gil to Aqaba to celebrate the 80th birthday of Lord Mibson, who facilitated many of the clandestine meetings between the monarch and Israeli dignitaries, but no sooner did they arrive than the king invited them to doff their jackets and go for a spin on his yacht. His majesty was, as usual, at the helm.

IT'S COMMON knowledge that when he's not having talks with Arab leaders or engaged in other affairs of state, Peres likes to settle down with a good book. But when he really wants to clear his head, his self-therapy is to get into the kitchen and do the dishes. The secret was revealed on Israel Radio by entertainer Hanny Nahmias, who went to school with one of the FM's children. Nahmias, who was the featured guest in Meni Pe'er's Sum-

mer Studio, said that when she used to go to the Peres household on weekends, she was always amazed to see Peres standing in the kitchen in a pair of shorts, washing dishes. It's an image that doesn't quite fit the sartorially elegant Peres. But in a telephone conversation with the studio, Peres confirmed that this was his way of getting out from under.

AGE IS no barrier when you've got what it takes. Although a grandfather several times over, and old enough to be the father of most of his professional rivals, singer Ariq Einstein continues to dominate the popularity polls. Einstein is the only contender of his generation in the pop-song category in Channel 2's (Wo)Man of the Year awards. But for television viewers the more interesting category is that of television's Man of the Year, where three of the five contenders are Haim Yavin, who was ITV's first broadcaster, Dan Shilon, who turned politics and current affairs into entertainment, and Dudu Topaz, who, not withstanding some of the nail-in-the-coffin reviews, continued to do it his way.

AS A rule it's considered inappropriate to bestow kisses on the president of the Supreme Court. But then Elisheva Barak – who was officially sworn in at a Beit Hanassi ceremony this week as a National Labor Court judge – could hardly be expected not to kiss her husband, who was present in a dual capacity. In fact, she was so exuberant that she did not confine her kissing to Aharon Barak alone, but also bussed Justice Minister David Liba'i.

"IS THAT David Brauner?" asked the polite voice on the other end of the phone. When Brauner, who is *The Jerusalem Post's* photography columnist, confirmed that it was, the voice said: "Just a moment please, the president wants to talk to you." Brauner was almost bowled over. The last person he ever expected to call him was Ezer Weizman. But the call was typical of Weizman's style. The president wanted to personally thank Brauner for delivering a very special photograph.

When Brauner interviewed veteran Israel Bonds photographer Efraim Eilat, the latter asked if he would be so kind as to forward a photograph to Weizman which he had taken several years



Stevie Wonder. The musical ambassador for peace promises a quick return.

ago of the president sitting in the cockpit of a Mirage jet with his son Shaul, who was killed in a traffic accident in July 1991. Brauner put the photograph in an envelope, attached a note and sent it to Beit Hanassi. After that, he gave the matter no further thought. When Weizman called several weeks later, it was not only to thank him, but also to apologize for taking so long to acknowledge receipt.

"OH, YOU'RE not Debbie," exclaimed the woman who had come to the book signing by Dvora Waysman, whose nemesis happens to be a certain left-wing activist by the name of Debbie Weizman with whom the writer has frequently been confused. Underdressed at finding Dvora instead of Debbie, the woman purchased a copy of Waysman's *The Pomegranate Pendant*, recently published by Feldheim, and naturally asked for it to be autographed. Waysman, who has long been a member of the Shalom Zedek public relations department, is retiring this month so that she can fully devote herself to conducting writers' workshops.

THE GUEST of honor notwithstanding, the barbecue which

Barbara Oberman-Katz and her husband Curtis are hosting in their Herzliya Pituah home this Sunday is not politically motivated. The event marks the 10th anniversary of Ulpana Ofra, of special importance to Oberman-Katz because many of the 400 youngsters learning Hebrew there came here from the former Soviet Union. Oberman-Katz was one of the founders of the famous British 35s which played a prominent role in the international struggle for Soviet Jewry.

Special guest will be Likud chairman Benjamin Netanyahu. Why him and not a member of the government? Because Ulpana Ofra is in the territories, explains Oberman-Katz, assuming that members of the government would prefer to stay away from the celebration. The other reason for inviting Netanyahu is that, aside from anything political, he's a friend of the family.

ALSO COMING up on Sunday is a reception to be hosted at the Sheraton Plaza Jerusalem by Ezra Jerusalem chairman Rafi Posner in honor of Queenie Viva Davis, daughter of Ezra founder Rose Slutskia and honorary life president of Ezra Australia. Ezra donates equipment to hospitals all over Israel.

AMONG THE delegates flocking to Jerusalem next week for the International Conference on Multiple Sclerosis is Rehmat Fazlilbhai of Bombay, who in 1990 received the Woman of the Year award for her work in spearheading multiple sclerosis awareness in India. Prior to her involvement with MS, Fazlilbhai had over 30 years' experience in welfare for the blind in the sphere of education. It was she who introduced integrated education for blind children in regular day schools.

ANOTHER GREAT Indian will be remembered next week at the Prime Minister's Conference on Peace Tourism. British actor Ben Kingsley, who won rare reviews worldwide for his title-role portrayal of Gandhi in the film tribute to the apostle of nonviolence, will be presented with the Peace Tourism Award by Prime Minis-

ter Yitzhak Rabin and Tourism Minister Uzi Baram. Given Kingsley's presence, there is little doubt that several speakers will directly or indirectly allude to Gandhi.

Among the 300-plus delegates from over 30 countries will be Tommaso Zanzotto, chairman and CEO of Hilton International; Eric Pfeffer, president of the Howard Johnson franchises; George A. Cobon, chairman of McDonald's Restaurants Canada; Raouf Bourtrus-Ghali, president of the Egyptian Travel Agents' Association; Dabab-Nadar, president and CEO of Royal Jordanian Airlines; and John C. Cahill, chairman of TWA.

THE IDEA to have a gathering of Mount Scopus Old Collegians at Beit Maierdorf on Mt. Scopus was that of Garry Stock, who is not only an alumnus of Mount Scopus, the largest Jewish day school in the southern hemisphere and probably in the world, but also happens to be the first graduate to become president of the college. Stock, who had always dreamed of having a Mount Scopus reunion in Israel, put his plan to work as soon as he settled in Jerusalem a year ago, deciding on the end of September as the most suitable date. While other Old Collegians will be converging on the capital from all over the country, Stock will miss out on the festivities. Because his children were unable to come to Israel for Rosh Hashana, Stock, the consummate family man, will be back Down Under to consume the apple and honey in a family environment.

AND TALKING of apples, one who didn't fall far from the tree is Yaron Pe'er, son of well-known broadcaster Danny Pe'er. Yaron, whose voice and on-camera personality are remarkably like those of his father, uses the gentle art of persuasion on the new Shopping Channel to get viewers to buy, buy, buy.

There is a certain incongruity about his first television role, considering that his father was one of the pioneers of the consumer affairs program *Kolbotek*.



FM Shimon Peres and Economics Minister Yossi Beilin took a spin on a Jordanian jet and then boarded a yacht with none other than the king at the helm. (Scoop 80'Y, Elharar)

POPULARITY CAN sometimes be a curse. Blonde-tressed Michal Yanai, star of children's programs on Cable Television, was almost thwarted in her plans to make a career move to Channel 2 via Tel-Ad when ICP, which produces her children's shows, petitioned the Tel Aviv District Court to place a restraining order on her. ICP claimed that Yanai's appearance on any other children's show would be injurious to them. In the end a compromise was reached; but whatever the decision, Yanai wouldn't have been inconsolable. After all, she's about to become a local Barbie. Kids, the American toy

manufacturer, is launching a Michal doll based on the Barbie original, but with a face that is more like Yanai's.

WHEN HE'S home in Israel, the voice of Israel Radio broadcaster Haim Zisovitch is never heard over the local air waves on Shabbat. But now that he's IBA's American-based correspondent, he contributes each week to the Friday night news programs without compromising his religious convictions. At his end of the phone it's only lunchtime on Friday in New York or Washington; so from his point of view, he's not in violation of anything.

THE JERUSALEM POST TOY FUND

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I imagine a child in a poor family, or in a home for orphans or the disabled. There's always a reason, it seems, for other kids to get presents: holidays, birthdays, achievements, or just for being good.

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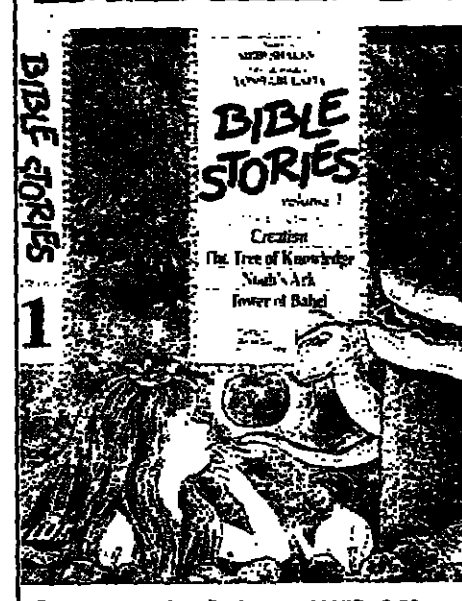
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הכנסת הארץ

BUSINESS & FINANCE

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 1995

17

Doling out
the goodies

COMMENT

NEIL COHEN

I WOULD be very surprised if this government holds elections a minute earlier than it constitutionally has to. But, boy oh boy, is it starting to dole out the goodies.

First, the Israel Electric Corporation, a wholly-owned subsidiary of the government with a large and militant workforce, votes its employees a nice fat bonus as it reports one set of record profits after another. IEC employees already get as much free electricity as they want and are among the highest paid workers in the public sector.

As the IEC is a total monopoly, you would expect government to impose price cuts so that consumers share in the bounty. So far, no such luck.

Then, under pressure from the egalitarian lobby, the government extended to all working women tax credits previously granted only to married working women. The married women were given the credit to compensate them for the additional health tax they would pay as a result of the National Health Insurance Law. Now all women will get the credit point to compensate them for wage discrimination against women.

There is certainly economic sense in encouraging mothers to enter the workforce via tax credits or the deduction of some child care expenses. But this latest move is totally devoid of economic logic.

The latest government brainwave, spearheaded by Shulamit Aloni, is the Bezeq lifeboat. Bezeq, you'd think, is a company in crisis, struggling to break even (well, er, not exactly. Its profits for the first half of 1995 were only NIS 243 million).

As the company is about to be faced with that awful monster known as competition, Aloni fears for its survival. So she has put together a package to keep it afloat. The package will amount to about NIS 3 billion of taxpayers' money over the next five years.

The royalties Bezeq pays the government will be reduced, competitors will be charged for access to Bezeq's telephone infrastructure and, best of all, efficiency measures to be imposed will be deferred. Cable and Wireless, the UK-based international telephone company which built up a stake in Bezeq this year must be whooping in incredulous delight at the government's unexpected bounty.

The richest part of it all is that the government may yet have to raise taxes to fund all these handouts. But it knows that the average taxpayer will not take to the streets when it puts its hand in our pockets so that it can foot the bill.

Israel's 'terms
of trade' worsen

Post Business Staff

THE prices of both imported and exported goods continued to rise in the second quarter, according to data released by the Central Bureau of Statistics yesterday. As a result of the more moderate increase in export prices, the country's "terms of trade" worsened.

The price of imported goods, excluding diamonds and fuel, rose 4.4 percent, following a 3.5% rise in the first quarter and a 2.8% increase in the last quarter of 1994. The cost of imported raw materials rose by 4.5%, similar to the rise in the two preceding quarters. Strong rises were noted in the price of paper products, chemicals, plastics, and non-ferrous metals.

Imported investment goods — machinery, equipment, and vehicles — rose by about 4%, following a 2% rise the previous quarter.

Machinery prices rose by 2.8%, while imported vehicles cost 7% more.

Imported consumer goods rose by 4.3%, following a 2.2% rise in the first quarter. Consumer durables rose 4.7%, while non-durables rose 3.9%.

Export prices, excluding diamonds, rose by 0.8%, held down by a seasonal 18% fall in the price of agricultural exports, while industrial export prices rose by 2.3%. The prices of food and telecommunications equipment exports rose 1%-2%, and textile and electrical equipment export prices fell.

The prices used to collate the data are dollar-based and, during the second quarter, the dollar weakened significantly against the yen and major European currencies.

Bank Hapoalim profits rise
43.6 percent to NIS 182.4m.

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

BANK Hapoalim yesterday reported a 43.6 percent rise in second-quarter net profits to NIS 182.4 million from NIS 127.1m. in the corresponding period last year.

Six-month profits increased to NIS 381m. from NIS 274.9m., up 38.6%. Net return on equity grew to 13.3% on an annualized basis, from 10.4% in the first half of 1994.

The bank said the half-year net profits do not include NIS 13.5 million from surplus investments in non-bank holdings, in line with government decisions and legislation concerning structural changes in the banking system.

The bank's improved profitability resulted mainly from a 34.8% increase in financing profit before provision for doubtful debts to NIS 705.2m. in the second quarter from NIS 523.1m. The rise was due to an expansion in the volume of customer credit and off-balance

sheet activities, and a rise in financial margins.

The rise in earnings was also due to the contribution of subsidiary companies, which increased to NIS 46.7m. from NIS 23.5m. in the corresponding period last year.

In the first six months of the year the contribution of subsidiary companies increased to NIS 93m. from NIS 79m. Overseas subsidiaries contribution to Hapoalim's profits rose to NIS 36.7m. from NIS 15.1m.

The profits were partly offset by a 19.5% increase in provisions for doubtful debts, to NIS 126.8m. from NIS 106.1m. This was mainly due to the capital market slump, which reduced the value of securities taken by the bank as credit security.

Operating and other income fell 4.7% in the second quarter, to

NIS 452.7m. from NIS 475.5m. The drop was primarily due to a 3.5% drop in commission activities to NIS 357.1m. from NIS 370.2m.

Operating and other expenses increased 12.6% to NIS 725.1m. from NIS 644.2m. The growth included a 9% growth in salary and related expenses, to NIS 433.3m. from NIS 397.1m.

Credit to the public increased 59% since the start of the year to NIS 74.1 billion, from NIS 70b. in the corresponding period last year. Deposits from the public rose 4.7% to NIS 80.9b. Total assets increased to NIS 126.3b. from NIS 124.8b.

Trade Bank reported a net profit of NIS 322,000 from a net loss of NIS 687,000 in the corresponding period last year. Half annual profits improved to a net loss of NIS 243,000 from a net loss of NIS 342,000 in the same period last year.

Bezeq announces 6-month
profit of NIS 243.3 m.

JUDY SIEGEL

A DAY after Bezeq was told by the Communications Ministry it will be compensated NIS 3 billion for its projected losses in an era of competition, the company announced it had net profits of NIS 243.3 million during the first half of 1995. This compared to only NIS 62.3 million during the same period last year — an increase of 288.9 percent.

Bezeq yesterday said its earnings per share during the first half of this year were 34 agorot, compared to 9 agorot in 1994. The operating profit was NIS 657.5m., or an increase of NIS 151m.

The annualized return on equity for the first half of this year was 5.9%, compared to 1.6% during the same period in 1994.

The company's revenues to-

taled NIS 3.29b., versus NIS 2.86b. last year, an increase of 14.8%. This growth, said the company, resulted from expanded activities inside Israel and abroad, despite the erosion of telecommunications rates. Bezeq invested NIS 1.014b. in infrastructure during the first half of the year.

The number of workers was reduced 17% to 8,700 at the end of 1994. An additional 250 staffers will go on voluntary early pension. Bezeq has 40.5 direct phone lines for every 100 residents — one of the highest rates in the Western world; it has 3.98 workers for each 1,000 lines, and 85% of its system is digital.

Some 200,000 lines were installed or transferred during the first half of this year.

IEC profits up to NIS 82.5m.,
far better than expected

RACHEL NEIMAN

ISRAEL Electric Corporation second quarter net profits rose to NIS 82.5 million from NIS 9.2m. in the parallel period last year. Quarterly revenues were NIS 1.4 billion from NIS 1.28b. in 1994.

Net profits for the first half of 1995 were NIS 146.3m. from NIS 144.7m. Revenues were NIS 2.88 billion from NIS 2.63b.

IEC board chairman Adi Amori said the six-month period results were far better than previously expected, and the

company had repeated its successes of 1993 and 1994 "which were years of profitability as compared with the losses of 1990 and 1991."

Amori also said he expected 1995 third quarter profits to be higher than those of the first and second quarters combined. "The financial significance for the first half of this year is that the company has continued to maintain in 1995 the same good level of profitability it achieved

in 1994." The average cost per kilowatt hour for the first half of 1995 was NIS 22.39 agorot from NIS 22.35 in 1994.

IEC invested NIS 1.4b. in infrastructure during the half-year period, funded primarily by long-term loans backed by US loan guarantees.

IEC general manager Rafi Peled said the company was continuing efficiency measures at the rate of 2% per year, as decided by the Fogel Committee in 1991.

Teva found guilty of patent violations

JUDY SIEGEL

THE Tel Aviv District Court yesterday found Teva guilty of extensive violations of patent rights of Wellcome's herpes drug.

The court ruled that Teva would have to pay the British pharmaceutical company all the revenues it earned from producing or marketing the anti-herpes drug Acyclovir for four years.

However, a Teva spokesperson told the Bloomberg News Agency that it expected the figure to be small.

Acyclovir is a very effective, anti-viral drug for the prevention and treatment of the painful skin condition herpes.

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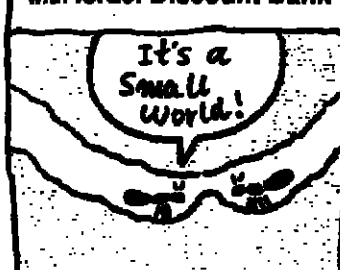
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| Patah (foreign currency deposit rates) (\$1.8.95) | | 3 MONTHS | 6 MONTHS | 12 MONTHS |
|---|-------|----------|----------|-----------|
| Currency (deposit for) | | | | |
| U.S. dollar (\$250,000) | 5.000 | 5.000 | 5.125 | 5.125 |
| U.S. dollar (\$100,000) | 4.750 | 4.750 | 4.875 | 4.875 |
| German mark (DM 200,000) | 2.750 | 2.750 | 2.875 | 2.875 |
| Swiss franc (SF 200,000) | 1.750 | 1.750 | 1.875 | 1.875 |
| Yen (10 million yen) | — | — | — | — |

(Rates vary higher or lower than indicated according to deposit)

Shekel Foreign Exchange Rates* (\$1.8.9)

| Currency basket | CHECKS AND TRANSFERS | | BANKNOTES | | Rep. Rates* |
|-------------------------|----------------------|--------|-----------|------|-------------|
| | Buy | Sell | Buy | Sell | |
| U.S. dollar | 3.4227 | 3.4790 | 2.95 | 3.11 | 3.4000 |
| U.S. dollar | 3.0107 | 3.0993 | 2.01 | 2.12 | 2.0761 |
| German mark | 2.0551 | 2.0893 | 1.49 | 1.58 | 1.4742 |
| French franc | 4.0857 | 4.1420 | 0.58 | 0.62 | 0.6038 |
| Japanese yen (100) | 0.5974 | 0.6071 | 0.08 | 0.08 | 0.1332 |
| Dutch florin | 3.0374 | 3.1474 | 3.04 | 3.20 | 3.1332 |
| Swiss franc | 1.8390 | 1.8626 | 1.80 | 1.89 | 1.8530 |
| Swiss franc | 2.5023 | 2.5427 | 2.45 | 2.58 | 2.5361 |
| Swedish krona | 0.4123 | 0.4180 | 0.40 | 0.43 | 0.4186 |
| Norwegian krona | 0.4897 | 0.4773 | 0.46 | 0.49 | 0.4749 |
| Denish krona | 0.3289 | 0.3373 | 0.31 | 0.34 | 0.3348 |
| Finnish mark | 0.0804 | 0.0875 | 0.07 | 0.07 | 0.0833 |
| Canadian dollar | 2.5453 | 2.5816 | 2.20 | 2.32 | 2.2893 |
| Australian dollar | 2.2615 | 2.2980 | 2.22 | 2.33 | 2.2853 |
| S. African rand | 0.8225 | 0.8388 | 0.74 | 0.84 | 0.8235 |
| Belgian franc (10) | 0.3885 | 1.0147 | 0.38 | 1.03 | 1.0105 |
| Austrian schilling (10) | 2.8201 | 2.8672 | 2.87 | 3.01 | 2.9535 |
| Italian lire (1000) | 1.9602 | 1.9903 | 1.82 | 1.92 | 1.8763 |
| Jordanian dinar | — | — | 4.12 | 4.41 | 4.3044 |
| European pound | — | — | 0.85 | 0.93 | 0.9913 |
| ECU | 3.6474 | 3.9096 | — | — | — |
| Irish punt | 4.7790 | 4.8581 | 4.69 | 4.93 | 4.8337 |
| Spanish peseta (100) | 2.4038 | 2.4427 | 2.36 | 2.48 | 2.4291 |

* These rates vary according to bank. ** Bank of Israel.

SOURCE: BANK LEUMI

إسرائيل

Key Representative Rates

| | |
|--------------------------|--------|
| US dollar ... NIS 3.0420 | -0.26% |
| Sterling ... NIS 4.7242 | +0.34% |
| Mark ... NIS 2.0761 | +0.71% |

NEW STOCK MARKETS

New York market indexes

| | Last | Change |
|-----------------|---------|--------|
| DJ Industrial | 4613.37 | +6.8 |
| DJ Transport | 1889.87 | +18.34 |
| DJ Utility | 302.14 | -1.4 |
| DJ Composite | 3021.87 | +5.7 |
| NYSE Composite | 3021.87 | +5.7 |
| NYSE Industrial | 3021.87 | +5.7 |
| NYSE Transport | 3021.87 | +5.7 |
| NYSE Utility | 3021.87 | +5.7 |
| NYSE Composite | 3021.87 | +5.7 |
| NYSE Industrial | 3021.87 | +5.7 |
| NYSE Transport | 3021.87 | +5.7 |
| NYSE Utility | 3021.87 | +5.7 |
| NYSE Composite | 3021.87 | +5.7 |

Other stock market indexes

| | Last | Change |
|---------------------|---------|--------|
| FTSE 100 | 2777.8 | -2.2 |
| Japan Nikkei | 15171.2 | -22.2 |
| Hong Kong Hang Seng | 9714.2 | -22.2 |
| Taiwan TSE | 5154.9 | +1.7 |

Israeli stocks in NY

| | Last | Change |
|--------|--------|--------|
| Amir | 62.875 | +0.375 |
| Amir A | 62.875 | +0.375 |
| Amir B | 62.875 | +0.375 |
| Amir C | 62.875 | +0.375 |
| Amir D | 62.875 | +0.375 |
| Amir E | 62.875 | +0.375 |
| Amir F | 62.875 | +0.375 |
| Amir G | 62.875 | +0.375 |
| Amir H | 62.875 | +0.375 |
| Amir I | 62.875 | +0.375 |
| Amir J | 62.875 | +0.375 |
| Amir K | 62.875 | +0.375 |
| Amir L | 62.875 | +0.375 |
| Amir M | 62.875 | +0.375 |
| Amir N | 62.875 | +0.375 |
| Amir O | 62.875 | +0.375 |
| Amir P | 62.875 | +0.375 |
| Amir Q | 62.875 | +0.375 |
| Amir R | 62.875 | +0.375 |
| Amir S | 62.875 | +0.375 |
| Amir T | 62.875 | +0.375 |
| Amir U | 62.875 | +0.375 |
| Amir V | 62.875 | +0.375 |
| Amir W | 62.875 | +0.375 |
| Amir X | 62.875 | +0.375 |
| Amir Y | 62.875 | +0.375 |
| Amir Z | 62.875 | +0.375 |

Dollar crosses rates (US)

| | Last | Change |
|----------|--------|---------|
| Spot | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| 1 month | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| 3 month | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| 6 month | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| 1 year | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| 2 year | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| 3 year | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| 4 year | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| 5 year | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| 10 year | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| 15 year | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| 20 year | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| 25 year | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| 30 year | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| 35 year | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| 40 year | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| 45 year | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| 50 year | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| 55 year | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| 60 year | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| 65 year | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| 70 year | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| 75 year | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| 80 year | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| 85 year | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| 90 year | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| 95 year | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| 100 year | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |

Labor rates

| | Last | Change |
|-------------|--------|---------|
| Hourly | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Weekly | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Monthly | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Quarterly | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Half-yearly | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Yearly | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| 2-yearly | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| 3-yearly | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| 4-yearly | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| 5-yearly | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| 10-yearly | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| 15-yearly | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| 20-yearly | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| 25-yearly | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| 30-yearly | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| 35-yearly | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| 40-yearly | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| 45-yearly | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| 50-yearly | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| 55-yearly | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| 60-yearly | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| 65-yearly | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| 70-yearly | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| 75-yearly | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| 80-yearly | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| 85-yearly | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| 90-yearly | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| 95-yearly | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| 100-yearly | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |

Foreign financial data courtesy of CommStock Trading Ltd.

| | Last | Change |
|------------------------|--------|---------|
| US Dollar | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| British Pound | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Japanese Yen | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Swiss Franc | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| German Mark | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| French Franc | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Italian Lira | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Spanish Peseta | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Portuguese Escudo | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Belgian Franc | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Dutch Guilder | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Austrian Schilling | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Swedish Krona | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Norwegian Krone | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Danish Krone | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Finland Markka | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Polish Zloty | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Czech Koruna | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Slovak Koruna | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Hungarian Forint | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Romanian Leu | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Bulgarian Lev | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Serbian Dinar | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Croatian Kuna | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Slovenian Tolar | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Czech Republic Koruna | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Slovak Republic Koruna | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Hungary Forint | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Romania Leu | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Bulgaria Lev | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Serbia Dinar | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Croatia Kuna | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Slovenia Tolar | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |

Futures, Options, Stocks, Bonds and Mutual Funds

| | Last | Change |
|------------------------|--------|---------|
| US Dollar | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| British Pound | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Japanese Yen | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Swiss Franc | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| German Mark | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| French Franc | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Italian Lira | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Spanish Peseta | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Portuguese Escudo | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Belgian Franc | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Dutch Guilder | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Austrian Schilling | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Swedish Krona | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Norwegian Krone | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Danish Krone | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Finland Markka | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Polish Zloty | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Czech Koruna | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Slovak Koruna | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Hungarian Forint | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Romanian Leu | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Bulgarian Lev | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Serbian Dinar | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Croatian Kuna | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Slovenia Tolar | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Czech Republic Koruna | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Slovak Republic Koruna | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Hungary Forint | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Romania Leu | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Bulgaria Lev | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Serbia Dinar | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Croatia Kuna | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Slovenia Tolar | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |

US commodities

| | Last | Change |
|--------------------------|--------|---------|
| Gold (Spot) | 381.4 | +0.2 |
| Gold (1000 oz) | 381.4 | +0.2 |
| Silver (Spot) | 14.1 | +0.1 |
| Silver (1000 oz) | 14.1 | +0.1 |
| Copper (Spot) | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Copper (1000 lb) | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Aluminum (Spot) | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Aluminum (1000 lb) | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Natural Gas (Spot) | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Natural Gas (1000 cu ft) | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Heating Oil (Spot) | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Heating Oil (1000 gal) | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Crude Oil (Spot) | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Crude Oil (1000 bbl) | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Wheat (Spot) | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Wheat (1000 bushels) | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Corn (Spot) | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Corn (1000 bushels) | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Soybeans (Spot) | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Soybeans (1000 bushels) | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Canola (Spot) | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Canola (1000 bushels) | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Wheat (1000 bushels) | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Corn (1000 bushels) | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Soybeans (1000 bushels) | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Canola (1000 bushels) | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |

London commodity

| | Last | Change |
|--------------------------|--------|---------|
| Gold (Spot) | 381.4 | +0.2 |
| Gold (1000 oz) | 381.4 | +0.2 |
| Silver (Spot) | 14.1 | +0.1 |
| Silver (1000 oz) | 14.1 | +0.1 |
| Copper (Spot) | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Copper (1000 lb) | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Aluminum (Spot) | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Aluminum (1000 lb) | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Natural Gas (Spot) | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Natural Gas (1000 cu ft) | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Heating Oil (Spot) | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Heating Oil (1000 gal) | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Crude Oil (Spot) | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Crude Oil (1000 bbl) | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Wheat (Spot) | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Wheat (1000 bushels) | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Corn (Spot) | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Corn (1000 bushels) | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Soybeans (Spot) | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Soybeans (1000 bushels) | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Canola (Spot) | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Canola (1000 bushels) | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Wheat (1000 bushels) | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Corn (1000 bushels) | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Soybeans (1000 bushels) | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Canola (1000 bushels) | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |

New York metal futures

| | Last | Change |
|--------------------------|--------|---------|
| Gold (Spot) | 381.4 | +0.2 |
| Gold (1000 oz) | 381.4 | +0.2 |
| Silver (Spot) | 14.1 | +0.1 |
| Silver (1000 oz) | 14.1 | +0.1 |
| Copper (Spot) | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Copper (1000 lb) | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Aluminum (Spot) | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Aluminum (1000 lb) | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Natural Gas (Spot) | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Natural Gas (1000 cu ft) | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Heating Oil (Spot) | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Heating Oil (1000 gal) | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Crude Oil (Spot) | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Crude Oil (1000 bbl) | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Wheat (Spot) | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Wheat (1000 bushels) | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Corn (Spot) | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Corn (1000 bushels) | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Soybeans (Spot) | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Soybeans (1000 bushels) | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Canola (Spot) | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Canola (1000 bushels) | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Wheat (1000 bushels) | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Corn (1000 bushels) | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Soybeans (1000 bushels) | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Canola (1000 bushels) | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |

London metal futures

| | Last | Change |
|--------------------------|--------|---------|
| Gold (Spot) | 381.4 | +0.2 |
| Gold (1000 oz) | 381.4 | +0.2 |
| Silver (Spot) | 14.1 | +0.1 |
| Silver (1000 oz) | 14.1 | +0.1 |
| Copper (Spot) | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Copper (1000 lb) | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Aluminum (Spot) | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Aluminum (1000 lb) | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Natural Gas (Spot) | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Natural Gas (1000 cu ft) | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Heating Oil (Spot) | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Heating Oil (1000 gal) | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Crude Oil (Spot) | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Crude Oil (1000 bbl) | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Wheat (Spot) | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Wheat (1000 bushels) | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Corn (Spot) | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Corn (1000 bushels) | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Soybeans (Spot) | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Soybeans (1000 bushels) | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Canola (Spot) | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Canola (1000 bushels) | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Wheat (1000 bushels) | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Corn (1000 bushels) | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Soybeans (1000 bushels) | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |
| Canola (1000 bushels) | 1.5480 | +0.0007 |

TEL AVIV STOCKS

Multi-sided trading

| | Last | Change |
|--------|--------|--------|
| Amir | 62.875 | +0.375 |
| Amir A | 62.875 | +0.375 |
| Amir B | 62.875 | +0.375 |
| Amir C | 62.875 | +0.375 |
| Amir D | 62.875 | +0.375 |
| Amir E | 62.875 | +0.375 |
| Amir F | 62.875 | +0.375 |
| Amir G | 62.875 | +0.375 |
| Amir H | 62.875 | +0.375 |
| Amir I | 62.875 | +0.375 |
| Amir J | 62.875 | +0.375 |
| Amir K | 62.875 | +0.375 |
| Amir L | 62.875 | +0.375 |
| Amir M | 62.875 | +0.375 |
| Amir N | 62.875 | +0.375 |
| Amir O | 62.875 | +0.375 |
| Amir P | 62.875 | +0.375 |
| Amir Q | 62.875 | +0.375 |
| Amir R | 62.875 | +0.375 |
| Amir S | 62.875 | +0.375 |
| Amir T | 62.875 | +0.375 |
| Amir U | 62.875 | +0.375 |
| Amir V | 62.875 | +0.375 |
| Amir W | 62.875 | +0.375 |
| Amir X | 62.875 | +0.375 |
| Amir Y | 62.875 | +0.375 |

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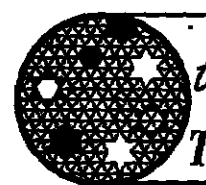
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Seles breezes into 3rd round

NEW YORK (AP) - Monica Seles solved the wind and her opponent yesterday to sail into the third round of the US Open by defeating Erika deLone 6-2, 6-1.

But several seeded players were ousted on the fourth day of the year's final Grand Slam tournament.

Zina Garrison Jackson used her speed and experience to eliminate 10th-seeded Lindsay Davenport 6-1, 6-3 in women's singles, while Daniel Vacek of the Czech Republic ousted No. 11 Sergi Bruguera of Spain in a men's second-round match 6-2, 6-3, 6-4.

In other early women's matches, No. 4 Conchita Martinez defeated Kimberly Po 6-1, 6-4; No. 5 Jana Novotna stopped Sweden's Asa Carlsson 6-1, 6-2; No. 7 Kimiko Date downed Lisa Raymond 6-2, 1-6, 6-4; No. 11 Anke Huber defeated Anne Miller 6-0, 7-5; Nicole Arendt stopped Radka Zrubakova of Slovakia 7-5, 6-3; Japan's Naoko Sawamatsu beat Janet Lee 6-3, 6-3; Sandrine Testud of France defeated Dominique Monami of Belgium 6-1, 6-4; and Angelica Gavaldon of Mexico defeated Jolene Watanabe 6-3, 6-1.

In other men's matches, No. 7 Yevgeny Kafelnikov of Russia stopped Portugal's Nuno Marques 6-3, 6-4, 6-4 and South Africa's Marcus Ondruska defeated Jerome Golmard of France 6-4, 6-4, 6-3.

Although she won comparatively easily, the second-seeded Seles, playing in only her second tournament following a 2½-year layoff, was not overwhelming. She looked vulnerable, as if she could be beaten by someone with a bigger game than deLone, who was playing in her first Grand Slam tournament main draw since the 1991 US Open, when she reached the second round.

"I really didn't feel like she took complete and total charge until she was ahead by a lot," deLone said. "She was staying in the point and giving me more chances than I thought I would have."

Still, the 58-minute victory was Seles' 16th consecutive match win in Grand Slam tournaments, 16th straight in US Open matches and ran her 1995 streak to 6-0.

"The wind was swirling around



FIRE UP - Monica Seles returns a forehand in yesterday's straight-set rout of Erika deLone at the US Open. (AP)

and I just felt I wasn't attacking," Seles said. "The whole game, I was like pushing back a lot of her returns. ... It was just great to just get it out of the way."

Playing in her 16th Open, Garrison Jackson used her quickness to get to every ball, then moved the plodding Davenport from side to side until either she found an opening or Davenport made an error.

Except for 1993, Garrison Jackson has reached at least the fourth round on the National Tennis Center hardcourts every year since 1985, a stretch that also

saw her lose to Martina Navratilova in the 1990 Wimbledon final. Shortly before this year's Open, she announced she had changed her plans and decided not to retire at the end of this year.

Davenport is one of the biggest hitters in women's tennis. But Garrison Jackson changed pace, not allowing Davenport to get into a groove, and kept her opponent on the move, rarely allowing her a chance to set up for her big shots.

"I knew my game would give Lindsay trouble. I don't hit with a lot of pace and I move very well,"

Garrison Jackson said.

Davenport had more answers in the second set, but by then Garrison Jackson had presented even more problems. And Davenport didn't help herself, committing a bevy of errors and five double-faults, including on match point.

"She played an unbelievable first set and hit all sorts of great shots, good volleys, good groundstrokes," Davenport said of Garrison Jackson. "She didn't make very many errors. The first set was over then, you know. I got killed."

Donald fires Warwickshire back to top

LONDON (Reuters) - South African fast bowler, Allan Donald claimed match figures of eight for 59 as Warwickshire crushed Gloucestershire by 10 wickets yesterday to return - at least temporarily - to the top of the county championship.

Donald ripped out five Gloucester batsmen in their first innings at a cost of only 37 runs as they were dismissed for a paltry 124 and then took three more as they were all out for 162 after being made to follow on.

It left the defending champions needing only nine runs to win which they achieved without loss, completing victory inside two days after the first day was lost through rain.

Captain Dermot Reeve made the initial breakthrough in the first innings after Gloucester resumed at 55 for four with the wickets of nightwatchman Martyn Ball and Monte Lynch.

At the close of the third day of four-day county championship yesterday:

At Trent Bridge: Hampshire beat Nottinghamshire by an innings and seven runs. Hampshire 333 in 136.3 overs; Nottinghamshire 154 in 81 overs (S.Udal 5-85, R.Mara 3-36) and 172 (S.Udal 6-85, R.Mara 3-46). Hampshire 22 points, Nottinghamshire three.

At Edgbaston: Warwickshire beat Gloucestershire by 10 wickets. Warwickshire 278 in 78.2 overs and 114; Gloucestershire 124 in 49.4 overs (A.Donald 5-37, D.Reeve 3-77) and 162 (P.Smith 3-18, A.Donald 3-22). Warwickshire 22 points, Gloucestershire four.

At Leicester: Glamorgan 439-5 declared in 110 overs (S.James 230 not out) and 22-0. Leicestershire 351-6 declared in 98.5 overs (B.Smith 94, G.Macmillan 85, N.Briers 73).

At Uxbridge: Northamptonshire 479 and 15-1. Middlesex 351-4 declared in 108.3 overs (M.Ramprakash 111, M.Gaining 83).

At Chelmsford: Essex 326 in 89 overs and 386-8 declared (M.Waugh 121, G.Gooch 94, P.Frith 93; T.Harrison 4-153). Derbyshire 290 in 75.5 overs and 38-3.

At The Oval: Surrey 221 in 57.5 overs and 239 (A.Smith 51). Lancashire 392 in 130.2 overs (J.Gallian 110, N.Speak 72, M.Atherton 61; M.Bicknell 5-107) and 19-1.

At Worcester: Somerset 425 in 133.2 overs. Worcestershire 574-4 declared in 185.5 overs (T.Curtis 129, G.Hick 128, D.Leach 72 not out, W.Weston 60).

Gordon cut from nat'l hoop squad

ARYEH DEAN COHEN

NATIONAL team coach Zvi Sherf and assistant Efi Birnbaum this week announced the members of the national basketball squad due to take part in European championship qualifiers this fall and winter against Greece, Slovakia, Georgia, Bosnia and Belarus.

The biggest surprise was the cutting of Hapoel Jerusalem guard Adi Gordon, who got off to a bad start in this past summer's European championships in Greece and ended up seeing little action. Gordon also reportedly did not see eye-to-eye with the coaching staff and was thus relieved to hear he would not be continuing on the national team.

As usual, Maccabi Tel Aviv had the most representatives with Nadav Henefeld, Doron Jancovich, Motti Daniel, Guy Goodes and Tomer Steinhamer named to the squad along with newcomer Oded Katash. Brad Leaf, who contributed considerably in Greece, asked to skip national team play this time around and his request was honored. Others named include Doron Sheffer, currently awaiting the beginning of his senior year at the University of Connecticut; Oded Fleischer, Amir Mukhtari and Lior Arditti (Bnei Herzliya); Dror Cohen (Hapoel Eilat); Uri Cohen-Mintz (Maccabi Jerusalem); Eli Beloni (Hapoel Holon) and Kobi Beloni (Maccabi Rishon LeZion).

Efforts are being made to arrange for Sheffer to be able to play in the games, which may conflict with his UConn schedule.

Meanwhile, league play and State Cup competition are still on hold pending teams' filing of financial plans as required by the league, which is trying to prevent situations in which players suddenly find themselves with no income when teams encounter financial difficulties. A dispute over new player contracts is also continuing although a solution to both problems is expected in time to let the regular season begin as scheduled on September 10.

Foreign players continue to shuffle in and out of the country as clubs prepare for the season. Hapoel Holon has reportedly decided against Mike Jones and will bring back Shelton Jones who played for them last year. The latter hopes to make the Miami Heat, and will therefore likely stick around only until NBA camps open in October, at which time Holon hopes to find another American to replace him.

Elsewhere, Hapoel Emeq Jezreel ended its search for a new head coach to replace Gadi Kodar, who quit after a dispute with management, when they gave assistant coach Zvi Horowitz the spot.

(Continued from Page One)

phase. "We are at the end phase of negotiations, which explains some of the constant rhetoric. But altogether, progress is continuous," he said.

A good part of this week's talks were taken up by the negotiators elaborating upon the security principles reached by Peres and Arafat in Tabat two weeks ago. They also negotiated transferring 10 more spheres of authority to the Palestinians. It is estimated that agreement on at least 25 of the 40 spheres have been completed. The talks, which recess this morning, are expected to resume on Sunday.

The prisoner issue is a major stumbling block. A ministerial committee is to meet today to discuss Israel's position on this

YASSIN

issue. An IDF spokesman said Wednesday that Israel is holding 5,289 Palestinian security prisoners and detainees.

Moshe Malul, spokesman for the Prisons Authority, said about 2,200 of those being held have been convicted in civilian courts and another 400 have been indicted and are awaiting trial.

While the IDF can administratively release the estimated 2,300 convicted by military courts and the 300 in military detention, a special ministerial panel must agree to commute the sentences of each of the 2,200 convicted by civilian courts.

The creation of a special ministerial panel to commute sentences of Palestinian security prisoners came about because of

President Ezer Weizman's discomfort in personally being the one to do so, sources said. In May 1994, a law giving a special ministerial committee the right to commute sentences was passed.

However, should there be a political decision by Rabin and other top ministers to free the prisoners, the ministerial panel is likely to rubber-stamp it.

Political leaders have said they will not release Palestinians who have "blood on their hands," although the precise definition of this term remains unclear. Israeli officials say a handful of the estimated 29 Palestinian women prisoners fit into this category, but PLO negotiators - very anxious that all the women be released - deny this.

Basheva Tsur contributed to this report.

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סוכנות הידיעות

NBA players voting on fate of the union

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Some arriving in limousines, National Basketball Association players around the country went to the polls Wednesday in a referendum on a proposed labor agreement that will determine the fate of the union and possibly the coming season.

Players, locked out since July, could either vote to continue their union, and in effect accept the labor deal, or abolish it, and send the labor dispute into federal court.

Results of the vote, conducted at 47 National Labor Relations Board offices Wednesday and September 7, will be announced September 12 in New York.

NBA commissioner David Stern has said if decertification wins, the lockout will delay the start of the season.

Regardless of which side they were on, players said their chief concern was playing on November 3 as scheduled.

"For 12 years, there was never a question about what I'd do in October," when training camp begins, said Atlanta's Craig Ehlo, who also kept his vote a secret.

It was unknown exactly how many of the approximately 420 eligible players showed up to cast their secret ballots.

NBA deputy commissioner Russ Granik said his reports indicated a "large" turnout, something the league and the union believed would help them get the simple majority needed to decide the issue.

But, prior to the balloting, the group backing decertification was confident it had enough votes to prevail.

While some players said they struggled to make sense of all the conflicting information and the complex provisions of the deal, they all understood the fan dissatisfaction that could result if

games were lost to the labor dispute.

"It's just what we saw in baseball and hockey," said Marty Conlon, a free agent who played last season for Milwaukee. "If basketball drops the ball here, it could be dangerous."

In Detroit, Pistons guard Joe Dumars shared a limo ride to the NLRB office with teammates Terry Mills and Mark Macon, along with Dallas' Doug Smith. New Jersey's Derrick Coleman, voting at the same time, said all four went for the deal.

Hakeem Olajuwon was among those voting in Los Angeles, where most of the players were dressed in shorts and T-shirts. The Houston Rockets star wouldn't say how he voted, but Eric Piatkowski of the Clippers said he voted yes.

"I want to play," he said. "I don't know if I felt a lot of pressure. It was a tough decision."

Israeli volleyballers in semis

FUKUOKA, Japan (AP) — Israel advanced to the semifinals of the men's volleyball competition at the World University Games yesterday. The Academic Sports Association (ASA) squad won its fifth straight, a 3-1 victory over Canada. After losing the first match, 14-16, Israel posted three straight wins with the identical score of 15-12.

Israel will face South Korea in today's semifinal. The second semifinal will be contested between the US and Spain.

Japan rebounded from a two-set deficit for a 12-15, 11-15, 15-9, 15-13 semifinal victory over the US in women's volleyball. In the final, Japan meets China, a 9-15, 15-3, 15-13, 15-11 winner over Russia.

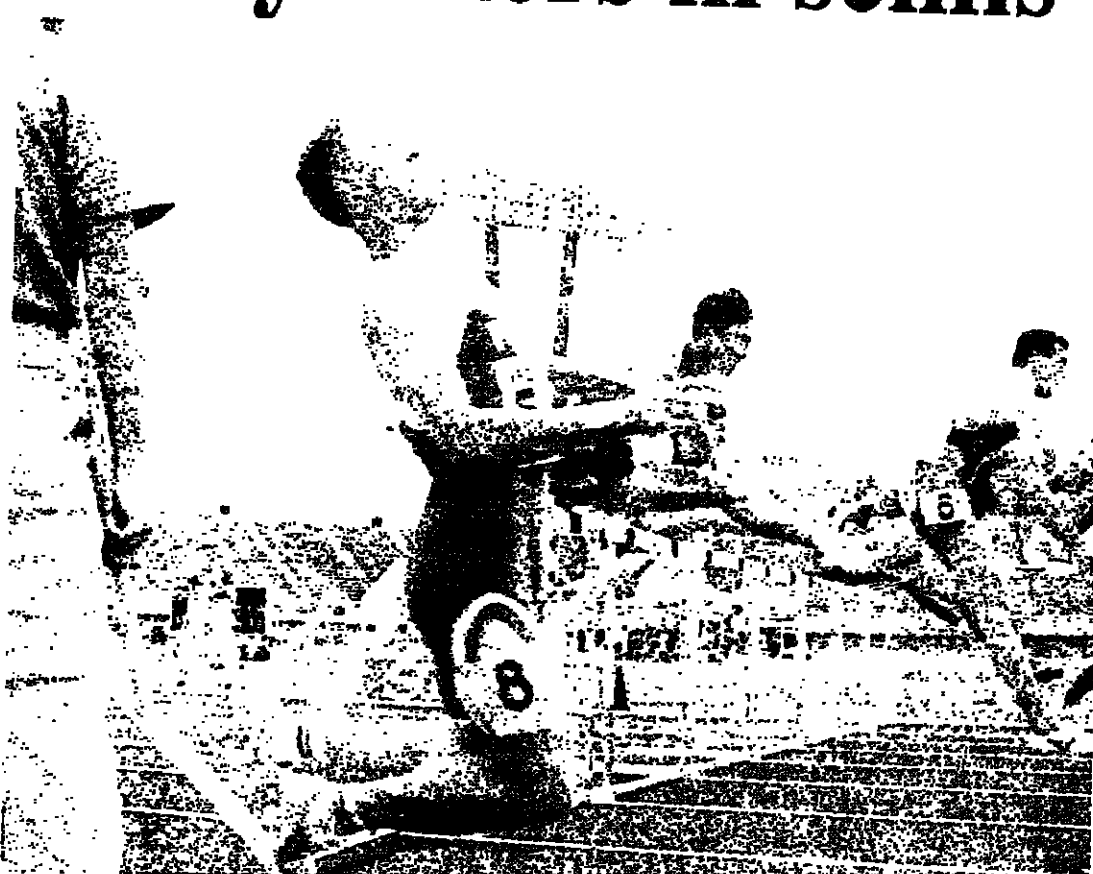
Japan edged back into the gold medals lead by the .37-second margin of Kazuhiko Yamazaki's victory over American Octavius Terry in the men's 400-meter hurdles.

Japan, Russia, Germany and Ukraine all were double gold medal winners Thursday. Japan's two gave it a total of 20, one ahead of the US, which had no golds for the day.

But the Americans still led 59 to 54 in total medals with three days of competition remaining in the "student Olympics."

Russia had 11 golds, China 10, South Korea 9, and Germany, Bulgaria and Hungary 5 each.

Japan also won the men's 5,000m race, with Katsuhiko



MISSTEP — Poland's Ronald Mehlich (front) stumbles in the men's 400-meters hurdles. (AP)

Kawauchi finishing .19 ahead of Morocco's Ibrahim Boulami. Italy's Maurizio Leone was another .08 behind Boulami.

Germany won a gold in women's foil team fencing to go with Heike Meissner's victory in the women's 400m hurdles.

Russia was the men's foil team fencing champion, and picked up another gold with Natalia Sado-

va's triumph in the women's discus.

In women's basketball, the US beat Russia 101-74 and advanced to Friday's final against Italy, a 68-62 winner over Japan.

The American men, seeking their fourth consecutive gold medal, play Canada and Japan in semifinal basketball games.

Cuba advanced to baseball's gold medal game in spectacular fashion. Pedro Luis Lazo pitched a no-hitter in his team's 5-0 victory over the US. In today's final, Cuba meets South Korea, a 4-1 winner over Japan. The Americans play Japan to decide the bronze medal — and try to avenge a 15-0 loss to the Japanese earlier in the tournament.

Millwall's US goalie sought for 'Colombian connection'

LONDON (AP) — American Kasey Keller is tending goal for England's top First Division team. But that's not why he's getting all those phone calls.

"It's my Colombia connection they want me for," said Keller, the 25-year-old international in his fourth full season with Millwall.

Colombia visits Wembley Stadium to play England next week and Keller is the last goalkeeper of record against the South Americans — a 4-1 loss in the third-place game of the Copa America earlier this summer.

Keller was also in goal in upsets of Argentina and Mexico.

"The British press is wanting to pick my brain about how Colombia plays, how to defend them," Keller said. "They're not calling for my play at Millwall."

Like Keller, Millwall has been in the news this week. But not because the club is in first place in the First Division.

A Millwall fan hurled a small wrench within inches of the opposing goalkeeper in Millwall's 2-1 win at Reading Tuesday. The incident prompted an investigation by the Football Association with a threat of a £100,000 fine to Millwall and a chance the club will have to play a game behind closed doors without income from ticket sales.

Based in a rough part of London's East End, Millwall has a new 20,000-seat stadium and a hardcore of tough fans pushing to get the club promoted to the Premier League, which is off this weekend.

Millwall has added forwards Uwe Fuchs — who played previously with German side Kaiserslautern — and Chris Malkin, who joined on a £400,000 transfer from Tranmere.

"The way we're playing now, this could be the year we get over the top," added Keller, a native of Seattle, Washington, and a former college soccer player in nearby Portland, Oregon.

With Millwall playing at Portsmouth, second-place Barnsley is at Birmingham with a chance to make up its one-point deficit if Millwall stumbles.

In other First Division matches tomorrow, it's Charlton vs. Huddersfield, Grimsby vs. Watford, Ipswich vs. Sunderland, Leicester vs. Wolverhampton, Luton vs. Derby, Norwich vs. Port Vale, Stoke vs. Oldham and West Bromwich Albion vs. Sheffield United.

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League takes Toto Cup break

DEREK FATTAL

THE National League soccer season, which got off to a bumper start last week, takes a short break this weekend.

The reason for the brief pause in the action is to allow the national squad to continue preparations for its vital confrontation away to Slovakia on Wednesday in qualifying Group 1 of the European Championship.

Instead of league fare, the National League sides will be playing the third round of qualifying matches in the Toto Cup.

Current holder Maccabi Petah Tikva hosts new-boys Hapoel Kfar Sava today, while the scout from Sporting Lisbon will be out spying on Maccabi Haifa tomorrow at the Hatikva Quarter in their contest against Bnei Yehuda.

His counterpart from Barcelona will have the opportunity to catch Hapoel Beersheba, which takes the field against Betar Tel Aviv.

Second division sides will play out the second round in their section of the Toto Cup.

Weekend Toto Cup fixtures — National League: Hapoel Petah Tikva vs. Hapoel Haifa, Rishon LeZion vs. Maccabi Tel Aviv, Be'er Sheva vs. Maccabi Herzliya, Bnei Yehuda vs. Maccabi Haifa, Zefram Holon vs. Maccabi Jaffa, Be'er Tel Aviv vs. Hapoel Beersheba, Maccabi Petah Tikva vs. Hapoel Kfar Sava, Hapoel Beit She'an vs. Hapoel Tel Aviv.

Kibbutznik pair notches yachting win

HEATHER CHAIT

A WORLD champion youth title goes to Ze'ev Kolesch and Elad Rouen, from Hapoel Ginosar, in the 470-yacht class tournament in Rostock, Germany. The 18-year-olds sailed to victory ahead of 42 teams from 22 nations.

Coming up to the last day's race, the pair was in first place and needed only to finish in the top 10 to win. The last race, however, was canceled due to tempestuous conditions, and the Israelis took home the first prize.

Individually speaking, the Israeli 400-meter individual medley team at the European Championships in Vienna not only set individual best times, but also finished in sixth place. Most significantly, they earned their Olympic ticket.

Yoav Bruck spearheaded the attack in the heats, lifting the other three results with his time of 49.71 seconds in the freestyle.

Following their leader, Eitan Orbach, Vadim Alexeev and Dan Kutler each swam to personal best times in the final with Bruck dipping below 50 seconds again to 49.67. The stupendous result means a renewed burst of attention on the Israeli swimming scene.

Municipal recognition The swimming fun continued at the Jerusalem Municipality where Mayor Ehud Olmert singled out Kutler, Alexeev and pole vaulter Danny Kraznov at a ceremony for Jerusalem's outstanding sportspeople.

Olmert, a keen armchair sportsman, outlined plans to build a "basketball sports palace, the biggest in the Middle East."

Jumping from the pool into the big ocean, 15-year-old Michael Bar Tal won the European Youth Waterski Championships in Germany. Michael jumped to a new Israeli height of 33.7m, finished first in the tricks and second in the slalom events.

Judokas compete in Germany Israel's men and women judokas are now in Germany for tomorrow's German Open Championships, the litmus test for the world championships later this month. Wins here will help prepare Yael Arad, Shiri Reggev, Oren Smadja, Arik Ze'evi, Ouy Fogel, Amit Leng, Eilat Yaron, Orit Baron and Bronislaw Matynski for the really big show — the Atlanta Olympics.

'No' to protest Keeping weightlifter Yuri Uliamnik's load light, the Supreme Court rejected the request from the Israel Sports Federation for a more demanding punishment for being caught using illegal drugs.

The court decided that the disciplinary committee, which settled on a five-year ban, suspended for two years, had had all the facts at its disposal and saw no need to renew the investigation.

The Sports Pages are edited by Joe Hoffman

Sugar bitter with Klinsmann

LONDON (AP) — Tottenham chairman Alan Sugar is still bitter over Jürgen Klinsmann's surprise departure from the club.

In a television interview Wednesday, Sugar pulled out a Tottenham jersey No. 18 signed by Klinsmann.

"I wouldn't wash my car with this now," Sugar said. "Here's the last shirt he wore at the Leeds match. Look what he's written here — 'To Alan with a very special thank you'."

"I'm bloody sure it's very special because I'm the bloomin' mug who relinched his career," Sugar added.

Sugar then crumpled up the jersey and tossed it aside.

"Here you can have it — or put it up for auction and we'll give the money to charity," Sugar said.

"An appropriate charity, which gets people to tell the truth," Sugar is angry with Klinsmann for evoking an escape clause in his contract to move to Germany's Bayern Munich. In his first season in England, he was Premier League Player of the Year with 29 goals and guided Tottenham to a seventh-place finish.

The blow has weakened and demoralized the London-based club, which has yet to win in four games and is lodged near the bottom of the standings.

Klinsmann was injured in his first match in the German league but has been named to the German squad for next week's European Championship qualifier against Georgia.

Collymore out of England team

LONDON (Reuters) — Liverpool striker, Stan Collymore, pulled out of Terry Venables's England squad yesterday for next Wednesday's friendly against Colombia at Wembley.

Collymore, who was injured in the second league game of the season against Leeds, has dropped out because his damaged ankle is still giving him problems.

Earlier this week England captain David Platt withdrew from the 23-man squad when it was revealed he needed surgery for a torn cartilage in his right knee.

Yanks hand Angels 5th-straight loss; Ripken at 2124

NEW YORK (AP) — Andy Pettitte, coming off two bad starts, pitched a five-hitter Wednesday that led the New York Yankees past the California Angels, 4-1, the fifth straight loss for the AL West-leading Angels.

The Angels lost for the eighth time in nine games. Ruben Sierra had three hits and drove in two runs as the Yankees have won three of four following an eight-game losing streak.

Pettitte (7-3) retired the first 13 batters of the game before Tim Lincecum doubled. He struck out eight and walked two.

Wade Boggs doubled home a run in the sixth, finishing Abbott. The former Yankees pitcher allowed 11 hits in 5 1/2 innings. Bernie Williams had three hits for New York.

Twins 6, Rangers 2. Kirby Puckett and Marty Cordova homered during a five-run rally in the bottom of the eighth inning as Texas fell to its fourth consecutive loss.

The loss dropped the Rangers into a three-way tie with Seattle and Milwaukee for the wild-card spot. The Mariners and Brewers both played at night.

The Twins completed their first three-game sweep of the season. Minnesota matched its longest winning streak of the year at three.

Ken Griffey Jr. took a four-hitter and a 2-1 lead into the eighth. But Chuck Knoblauch and Jeff Reardon led off with singles, and Roger McDowell relieved.

Eddie Guardado (3-3) got one out and was the winner. Dave Stevens pitched the ninth.

Indians 4, Blue Jays 3 (14). Albert Belle's two-run home run capped a two-run bottom-of-the-14th inning as the Cleveland Indians won dramatically yet again.

The Indians improved to 10-0 in extra innings and won for the 23rd time in their last 24 this season. They've ended home games abruptly with a home run eight times. It was their seventh straight win overall.

The Blue Jays scored a run in the top of the 14th on Mike Balf's bases-loaded sacrifice fly off Paul Assenmacher (6-2), but the Indians answered immediately with a sacrifice fly by Carlos Baerga and Belle's homer off Tony Castillo (1-3).

Red Sox 7, Mariners 6. Recently promoted Matt Stein hit a three-run double, tying a five-run seventh inning and leading Boston to a win at Fenway.

The victory by the AL East-leading Red Sox left the wild-card men tighter than ever. Seattle, Milwaukee and Kansas City are all one-half game behind Texas for the top spot.

Seattle lost starting pitcher Chris Bosio in the first inning when he was hit in the jaw by Mike Greenwell's grounder. Bosio was taken for X-rays, which were negative, and sus-



BREAKING UP IS HARD TO DO — Braves runner Ryan Kisko sprints Astros shortstop Ricky Gutierrez in a successful effort at breaking up a double play. (AP)

tained out on his chin.

Mike Maddux (3-1) earned the win after allowing one run on three hits in 3 1/2 innings of relief of Erik Hanson. Jeff Nelson (5-2) was the loser.

Adriano 7, Orioles 2. Terry Steinbach homered, Brent Gates got three hits and rookie Doug Jones won his third straight start as Oakland won on the road.

Cal Ripken, playing in his 2,124th consecutive game, doubled in the eighth inning — his 2,300th hit during the streak. But the Orioles' shortstop is mired in a 4-for-20 drought as he draws closer to Lou Gehrig's record of 2,130 straight games.

Oakland pulled within 28 games of the wild-card lead with its eighth victory in 10 games. The A's, who led 6-0 after five innings, moved three games under 500 (57-60) for the first time since July 21.

NATIONAL LEAGUE Giants 4, Phillies 1. William VanLandingham remained unbeaten in his career at Candlestick Park and Bobby Thompson homered to lead San Francisco.

The Phillies have lost five straight at Candlestick this season and are 0-9 there since April 21, 1994.

VanLandingham (5-3) improved to 9-0 in 16 lifetime starts in San Francisco. He gave up five hits and struck out eight in 8 1/2 innings. Rod Beck earned his 26th save.

Thompson's seventh homer gave the Giants a 1-0 lead in the first. They added two in the second on an RBI grounder by Royce Clayton and an RBI double by Kirt Manwaring and

an unearned run in the fourth.

Jim Eisenreich hit his seventh homer in the sixth for Philadelphia. Mets 8, Dodgers 1.

New York beat Los Angeles for the fifth consecutive time as NL batting leader Mike Piazza struck out three consecutive times with the bases loaded.

Dave Mlicki (7-6) got Piazza twice and reliever Doug Henry the third time as the Dodgers dropped into a tie for first in the NL West with the Colorado Rockies.

Rico Brogna hit his 16th homer, Jose Vizcaino singled home two runs and Ryan Thompson and Carl Everett each had an RBI double to help the Mets to their 10th win in 13 games.

Los Angeles tied a season-high by stranding 15 baserunners en route to its ninth loss in 13 games.

Mlicki allowed a run and nine hits over 5 1/2 innings and escaped bases-loaded jams in the second and fourth against the heart of the Dodgers' lineup.

Marlins 4, Cubs 1. John Burkett took a shutout into the ninth inning and finished with a five-hitter for a Miami home win.

Burkett (12-11) walked three and struck out five as he set a record for victories for the three-year-old franchise.

Greg Colburn drove in three runs for the Marlins, including his 20th homer of the season.

Sammy Sosa homered with one out in the ninth, his 30th of the season and 10th in 13 games, to break up the

shutout.

Frank Castillo (8-8) took the loss for the Cubs, who ended the Marlins' 14-game home winning streak Tuesday night. He allowed seven hits and four runs in seven innings.

Astros 2, Braves 0. Shane Reynolds allowed six hits over eight innings and visiting Houston won its second straight after losing a team-record 11 in a row.

Reynolds (9-9) struck out five and walked two. Jeff Tabaka and Todd Jones worked the ninth with Jones getting the last out for his 15th save.

The Braves were shut out for the third time this season.

The Astros did all their scoring in the third off John Smoltz (10-6) on an RBI double by Brian Hunter and a sacrifice fly by John Cangello.

Smoltz, who had not lost since July 12, allowed six hits, walked four and struck out eight in seven innings.

Cardinals 4, Reds 3. David Bell hit his first major-league homer in his hometown, a tie-breaking two-run shot for visiting St. Louis.

Bell, whose father Buddy and grandfather Gus played for the Reds, homered off Mark Portugal (8-9) in the sixth to snap Cincinnati's five-game winning streak.

Jose Oliva added a two-run homer to help the NL's worst record team avoid a three-game sweep at Riverfront Stadium, where the Reds have won 15 of their last 17.

Mike Morgan (6-7) gave up three runs on eight hits over five innings. Tom Henke pitched the ninth for his 29th save in 30 chances.

Cincinnati's Barry Larkin drove in a run with an infield single in the first. Benito Santiago doubled home a run in the fourth, and Hal Morris homered leading off the sixth to make it 4-3.

WEDNESDAY'S AL RESULTS:

New York 4, California 1
Minnesota 6, Texas 2
Kansas City 2, Milwaukee 1
Boston 7, Seattle 6
Oakland 10, Baltimore 2
Chicago 10, Detroit 7
Cleveland 4, Toronto 3 (14)
WEDNESDAY'S NL RESULTS:
San Francisco 4, Philadelphia 1
Florida 4, Chicago 1
Houston 2, Atlanta 0
St. Louis 4, Cincinnati 3
Colorado 6, Pittsburgh 0
San Diego 3, Montreal 2
New York 8, Los Angeles 1

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

| Team | W | L | Pct. | GB |
|------------|----|----|------|----|
| Atlanta | 72 | 42 | .632 | - |
| Pittsburgh | 59 | 57 | .508 | 14 |
| Montreal | 55 | 60 | .478 | 17 |
| Florida | 52 | 61 | .460 | 19 |
| New York | 51 | 63 | .447 | 21 |

Central Division

| Team | W | L | Pct. | GB |
|------------|----|----|------|------|
| Cincinnati | 72 | 42 | .632 | - |
| Houston | 59 | 57 | .513 | 13.5 |
| Chicago | 57 | 58 | .496 | 15.5 |
| St. Louis | 48 | 67 | .412 | 24 |
| Pittsburgh | 48 | 67 | .417 | 24.5 |

West Division

| Team | W | L | Pct. | GB |
|---------------|----|----|------|-----|
| Colorado | 60 | 56 | .517 | - |
| Los Angeles | 60 | 56 | .517 | - |
| Baltimore | 54 | 61 | .470 | 7 |
| San Francisco | 54 | 61 | .470 | 7.5 |

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

| Team | W | L | Pct. | GB |
|-----------|----|----|------|------|
| Boston | 71 | 44 | .617 | - |
| New York | 58 | 59 | .487 | 15 |
| Baltimore | 54 | 61 | .470 | 17 |
| Toronto | 48 | 65 | .420 | 21.5 |
| Detroit | 47 | 67 | .412 | 22.5 |

Central Division

| Team | W | L | Pct. | GB |
|-------------|----|----|------|------|
| Cleveland | 70 | 35 | .663 | - |
| Minnesota | 58 | 57 | .504 | 21.5 |
| Kansas City | 57 | 56 | .504 | 21.5 |
| Chicago | 48 | 64 | .434 | 22.5 |
| Minnesota | 42 | 72 | .368 | 27 |

West Division

| Team | W | L | Pct. | GB |
|------------|----|----|------|------|
| California | 57 | 49 | .538 | - |
| Texas | 56 | 57 | .500 | 8 |
| Seattle | 56 | 57 | .500 | 8.5 |
| Oakland | 57 | 60 | .487 | 10.5 |

The Israel Softball Association

invites new teams to register for its annual State Cup tournament.

The fast pitch tourney will take place during October and November.

Deadline - September 5, 1995.

For further information, please call:

the I.S.A. offices - 03-5254957 after 2:30 p.m.

*The Israel Softball Association is sponsored by POST

Health workers suspend strike for 10 days

JUDY SIEGEL

SOME 2,000 Health Ministry workers yesterday suspended their strike for 10 days, after an agreement was reached in Jerusalem Labor Court to negotiate their wage demands.

As a result, the court did not issue the restraining orders that had been requested by the ministry and the State Attorney's Office.

The union, whose members work at ministry headquarters, district health offices, and a variety of public-health facilities around the country, is demanding wages equivalent to those in Kupat Holim Clalit, according to the formula set down by the Padah Committee.

Union head Rami Hashash said that if the issues are not resolved in 10 days, the workers would resume and intensify their sanctions. The court will hold another hearing on September 13.

The Health Ministry acknowledged that it is likely to be sued by a large number of food importers who sustained losses because their products were not tested by ministry staffers and freed for marketing here.

However, it was the Finance Ministry that adamantly opposed the union's demands, while the Health Ministry was at least partially sympathetic. Treasury officials will meet with the union early next week to examine its demands.

Meanwhile, Finance Minister Avraham Shohat wrote to MK Haim Oron, the Histadrut treasurer, saying that its "failure to meet its commitments" regarding Kupat Holim Clalit's recovery plan damages the recovery process. Shohat said the Histadrut owes Clalit NIS 60 million, plus 27 monthly payments totaling NIS 20m. and payments for workers going on early pension totaling hundreds of millions of shekels.

The Histadrut, which said it would petition a labor court over the issue, had agreed to make the first payment of NIS 60m. by the end of September.

Clalit spokesman David Tager said Clalit "has not violated any agreement but cannot agree to violations of the recovery plan. Clalit will explain its position in court."

Electronic 'Post' proves to be a big hit

THOMAS O'DWYER

THE impact of *The Jerusalem Post's* successful launch onto the information superhighway exceeded all expectations this week, when more than 100,000 visits to its site on the Internet's World Wide Web were recorded.

Four weeks ago, the *Post* joined other pioneering newspapers on the Internet - among them its sister publication, the *London Daily Telegraph* - as well as the *USA Today*, *The New York Times* and the *Irish Times*. The *Post* and the business daily *Globe* are the only Israeli papers available on Internet.

The Internet, the network linking some 40 million computer users worldwide, is having an explosive impact on the dissemination of news and information.

"Last week we recorded 106,000 hits [visits]," said the *Post's* Internet project manager, Nina Keren-David. "The service is free to readers, but we expect it to become advertising-driven as commercial companies realize the size of our audience."

The *Post's* main news, analyses

and opinion columns are loaded onto the World Wide Web around 1 a.m. daily local time by Internet news editor Ilan Chaim, making the newspaper available in the US and around the world hours before it hits the newsstands in Israel. Each morning, day editor Gershon Gale loads up the *Post's* business news, columns and features.

Keren-David said the *Post* site will soon be fully interactive, with direct E-mail to the newspaper's editors and a daily opinion poll. The site and its color graphics were designed by Impact Plus and it is maintained by NetVision, a leading local Internet provider.

Computer-owners with an Internet-provider account can find the *Post* Internet edition by pointing their web browser to <http://www.jpost.co.il>.



The first local branch of the giant "Toys'R'Us" chain opened its doors this week at the Hatot Hamifratz shopping mall, near Haifa. The store was packed with shoppers yesterday, after the official opening ceremony on Wednesday night. The store, which cost NIS 5 million to build and equip, covers an area of 3,000 sq.m. and has 24 different departments, including one devoted entirely to Barbie dolls and accessories and another with everything necessary for throwing a home birthday party. Two more stores are slated to open here, at Kibbutz Shefayim and in Jerusalem. (Sivan Farag)

Habimah goes into receivership

HELEN KAYE

The Habimah National Theater has gone into receivership, as the Tel Aviv District Court yesterday named State Receiver Shmuel Zur as its public trustee.

Meetings between Habimah general manager Ya'acov Agmon and Zur were scheduled to begin at once and will continue over the weekend.

Meanwhile, at a meeting with the Habimah staff yesterday, Agmon promised that the scheduled 1995/96 season would go ahead as planned, but that details have yet to be worked out.

Actors who attended the meeting said the atmosphere was subdued.

In a related development, the Histadrut spokesman said that attorney Naomi Landau would meet with the theater's personnel to decide whether to seek an injunction against the receivership proceedings. The Histadrut represents Habimah's 200 employees.

Science and Arts Minister Shu-

lami Aloni applied to the court to appoint a receiver, following the submission of a report from the special committee appointed on August 25 to assess the situation, after the theater's entire management had resigned the previous day.

Warning that unless drastic action was taken immediately, Habimah would collapse financially and artistically, the committee recommended that the theater go into receivership and that Agmon be appointed professional administrator to oversee its recovery.

Police still searching for missing Holon woman

POLICE are still searching for Ya'el Etz-Hadar, 28, of Holon, who left her home Monday afternoon and has been missing since.

Etz-Hadar's father Danny, who works in the Military Censor's Office in Tel Aviv, said he hoped his daughter would soon be found safe.

He said that on the day she disappeared, she rented a car at the Gindy car rental agency in Tel Aviv, which she had to return by Wednesday.

When she failed to return the car the manager called her house and asked where the vehicle was. It was the first her parents knew about her renting the car.

Etz-Hadar worked as a cosmetician and had dealings with fashion photographers and models.

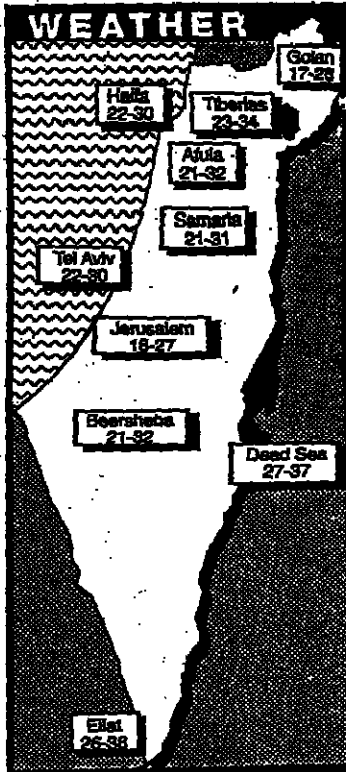
She left her home at 5 p.m. Monday and told her parents she was going to a Tel Aviv fashion photographer's studio to make up a model, saying it would take several hours.

When she failed to return the following morning her mother called the photographer who said

she had called the day before to say she wasn't coming to work because of an illness.

Police asked anyone with information about her whereabouts to contact them. (Him)

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|-------------|-----|------|-------|--------|
| Amsterdam | 13 | 18 | SE 10 | partly |
| Berlin | 10 | 15 | SE 10 | partly |
| Bombay | 24 | 30 | SE 10 | clear |
| Brussels | 10 | 15 | SE 10 | partly |
| Chicago | 10 | 15 | SE 10 | partly |
| Copenhagen | 10 | 15 | SE 10 | partly |
| Frankfurt | 10 | 15 | SE 10 | partly |
| Geneva | 10 | 15 | SE 10 | partly |
| Hamburg | 10 | 15 | SE 10 | partly |
| Helsinki | 10 | 15 | SE 10 | partly |
| Jakarta | 24 | 30 | SE 10 | partly |
| London | 10 | 15 | SE 10 | partly |
| Los Angeles | 10 | 15 | SE 10 | partly |
| Moscow | 10 | 15 | SE 10 | partly |
| New York | 10 | 15 | SE 10 | partly |
| Paris | 10 | 15 | SE 10 | partly |
| Rome | 10 | 15 | SE 10 | partly |
| Stockholm | 10 | 15 | SE 10 | partly |
| Tokyo | 10 | 15 | SE 10 | partly |
| Vienna | 10 | 15 | SE 10 | partly |
| Zurich | 10 | 15 | SE 10 | partly |

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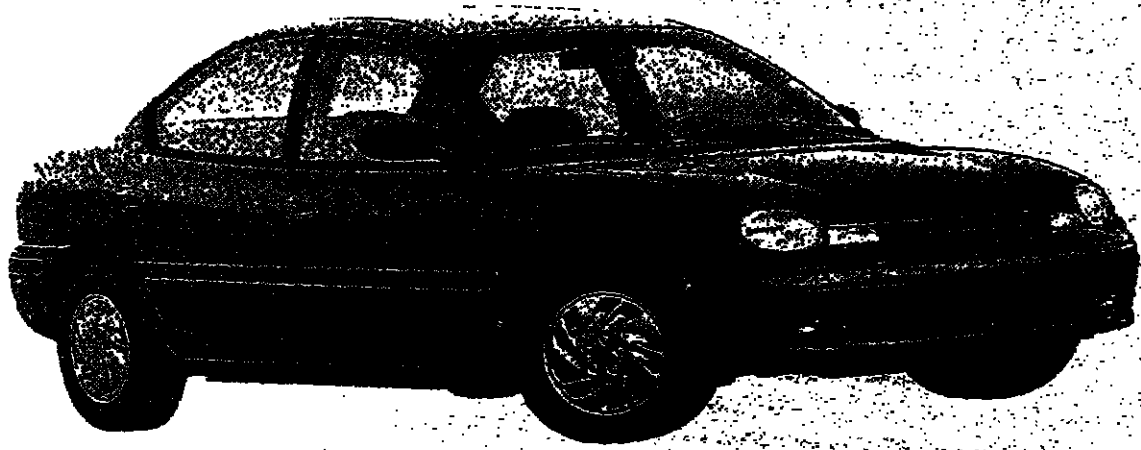
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